THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXXVIII.
NUMBER 15.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1891.

Per Annum in Advance
TOWN 11-8
MOFUSSIL 13-4

LIBR... OF ... BOM... BRA... OF ... ROYAL ASIAT...

Summary of News.

Monday, 6th April.

THE London Committee of the Indian Civil Service Association, says the correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, will meet in a few days to consider their future course of action. When the report of the Select Committee, presided over by Sir John Gorst, was issued, dissatisfaction was expressed at the London Committee having consented to the inquiry being closed before further witnesses could be summoned from India. Tne Select Committee, it will be remembered, recommended that the pensions should be paid at the rate of 1*s.* 9*d.* per ruppee. At that time exchange was high and the concession was not valued so much as it is to-day. All feelings of soreness in India have now disappeared and the London Committee are being invited to continue their operations on the old lines.

THE Bengal Government has expressed a desire to see water-works, introduced in all riparian Municipalities situated within a reasonable distance of the Metropolis. It is proposed that there should be an extension of the water-worsks on both sides of the river as far as Halishahar, and the Hughly Municipalities are asked to co-operate with the Government in working out the scheme, which is apparently the first endeavour of the New Bengal Sanitary Board in the direction of sanitary improvements.

THE Hon. J. L. Mackay has been re-elected a Port Commissioner by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

THE *Statesman* says:—"That is a strange statement, which appeared recently in the columns of a contemporary, that the man Gouldsbury, who was sent to England shortly after the Dum-Dum murder trial, has never received his reward for turning Queen's evidence. We mean that the fact is strange if the statement is correct. It is said that he applied for the money after the trial; but, by the time his application was granted, he had disappeared. The latter fact is not, perhaps, surprising. What does seem anomalous is that the money should not have been paid sooner. We have no sympathy with candidates for blood-money, which, we are inclined to think, blesses neither him who gives, nor him who receives it. But if it is necessary for the purposes of justice that it should be offered, it is surely also necessary that it should be promptly paid. Few men would turn Queen's evidence, if they knew that they would have to wait a year or more for the promised guerdon." Where is the murderer? The blood of the murdered man is crying for vengeance.

THE students of the Hindu Hostel in Calcutta, says the *Dainik*, have combined not to use foreign articles. They will raise a capital of rupees ten thousand from amongst themselves, and establish a shop, from which all indigenous articles will be purchased. Directors will be appointed to manage the shop. Surely *students* should be better advised.

A NEW and simple cure, without injection or pain of any kind, is said to have been discovered for diseases of the respiratory organs. A light gold or silver inhaler is placed in the mouth, close to the palate, which contains certain antiseptic *pastilles*. This apparatus has to be kept constantly in the mouth, except when the patient is eating. After a few weeks the ulceration of the lungs or bronchial organs become cicatrised, the cough ceases, and other symptoms disappear.

MENTION is also made of a wonderful and successful application of the electric light for neuralgic ailments by means of an incandescent lamp. A reflector in the shape of funnel is applied to the affected region, and one illumination of ten or fifteen seconds suffices to allay the most intense neuralgic pains in the head, and of one to five minutes in any other part of the body.

A TRANSFUSION of goat's blood is said to be a remedy for consumption and chlorosis. Two transfusions are alleged to have brought a chlorotic patient from death to life.

Tuesday, 7th April.

THE *Bengli* writes:—We understand that the Government of Bengal has directed the re-introduction of Outstills in parts of Midnapore and Bankura from the 1st instant. At present, the experiment will be tried in the out-of-the-way jungly tracts only, such as Thannahs, Gopibullubhpore Binpore, and Jhargaon in the former, and Khatra, Raipore, and Simlapal in the latter District. The ostensible reason for this retrograde measure is alleged to be that the central distillery system is unsuited to those tracts, because of their sparse population, their proximity to Native Tributary States, where there are no restrictive Excise regulations, and their extensive jungly frontiers, which make effective surpervision all impossible. If we understand the reason correctly, it amounts to this. The Government finds too late that a fall in Excise Revenue has occurred from the substitution of distillery spirit-shops in place of outstills in these Districts. It is nothing but what every body expected from the change of the Excise system first because of the high price of distillery spirit, which a poor and scattered population cannot avoid to buy, and next, because of the cost of keeping up a sufficient preventive establishment to suppress smuggling of cheap liquor across the frontiers.

"IT has been ordered, therefore," our contemporary goes on to remark," "that the Outstills must be re-introduced to save the revenue. But we ask—was not this foreseen, when a change of policy was decided on? The chief argument against Outstills, which led to their abolition, was that they cheapened liquor, and brought it, so to say, to the doors of the poor and the unwary; distillery spirit is dear, and it cannot be had except from a few distant shops in chief towns and Sub-Divisions. The people of the Thannahs in question, mostly Sonthals, Bowries, and other wild tribes, have thus been forced to abjure it, and taken kindly to *pochwai* and *tari* beverages more homely and wholesome than the Government distillery spirit. Is not a small sacrifice of revenue worth making for such beneficial change in the habits of the people? But the Government seems to think that the enormous revenue from Excise, which it wrings from the people, was rightfullly its due, and though it would submit to a change of policy under compulsion, the revenue must be made good at any cost. We firmly believe the Government was ill-advised in ordering even a partial reversion to a policy, condemned alike by the Secretary of State and Parliament. We wonder whether the action of the Bengal Government has received the sanction of the Government of India."

AN epidemic of measles amongst children is raging in town, several being laid up in each house.

ON Sunday, at 3 P. M., a destructive fire broke out in a *bustee* at Chetla, on the banks of the canal, south of the suspension bridge at Alipore. The Calcutta Fire Brigade was telephoned for, and proceeded to the spot, where two hand engines from Watgunge and Bhowanipore, and another from the lines of the 17th. N. I., were already in attendance. The flames were extinguished by 5 P. M., but not till about 40 or 50 huts had been burnt down, and property destroyed to the value of about Rs. 10,000

THE researches of Dr. Shaw, an eminent American missionary in China, have resulted in the discovery of a Chinese manuscript dating two hundred years before Christ, in which it is conclusively proved that America was discovered about the year 217 B. C. by one Hee Li, a Chinese navigator of the reign of the Emperor Ching Wang. Somehow or other when taking a coast voyage, a yangsi beetle got into the compass, and prevented it from acting. Hee Li didn't know this, and sailed due east for days, not a little puzzled to find how long it took him to get to his destination. He subsequently fetched up on the coast of California, and then one of the crew found the beetle, and Hee Li began to understand it all. In the narrative of his voyage he speaks in high terms of the climate. He explored the Golden Gate and the Bay of San Francisco, which he named the Great Bay, and then returned to China. A trade between the two countries sprang up, but why it ever ceased Dr. Shaw has not been able to discover.

BABU RAM CHUNDER CHATTERJEE, the intrepid Bengali balloonist, will shortly make an ascent at Rawal Pindee.

Wednesday, 8th April.

A GRAND meeting of the Khalsa College Establishment Committee was attended by representatives of Sikh Chiefs and Rajas connected with Punjab and almost all the Sirdars of the province. The question of the locality of the college was referred to his Honor Sir James Lyall, in whom all have confidence.

MR. JUSTICE SCOTT, who arrived at Bombay, by mail steamer on Sunday night, 4th April, will have to go into harness again as High Court Judge till the official date of his retirement, the 17th instant. He will, however, stay in Bombay until the 18th instant. The India Office has awarded him a proportionate pension for his service in India.

WHAT may be regarded as rather an interesting historical document is published as a Bill in last week's *Gazette*. The Bill proposes to confirm and give effect to an indenture between the Secretary of State and the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, the chief object of the agreement being to exchange the "rank, dignity and position of Nawab Nazim and Subadar of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa" against a yearly sum of Rs. 2,30,000 payable out of the Indian revenues. It appears from the preamble that in the year 1838 the then Nawab of Murshidabad, being at that time, a minor, succeeded to the honours and dignities of the Nizamat and Subadary of Bengal, Behar and Orissa and was proclaimed by the Governor-General in Council to have assumed, and to be entitled to exercise the authority, dignities, and privileges of the office under the titles of Muntazim-ul-Mulk, Mohsin-ud-Dowlah, Faridun Jab, and Monsur Ali Khan Bhahadur, and Nastrat Jang. Certain revenues were set apart for the support of the family, and gradually accumulating, amounted in 1880 to about a crore of rupees. In that year differences arose between the Nawab Nazim and the Indian Government upon several matters concerning the position and affairs of himself and the members and dependents of the Nizamat family. No agreement, it seems, could be arrived at in India, and in 1869 the Nawab Nazim, with the Viceroy's permission, went to England. and in person explained his grievances to the English Government.

MATTERS must have moved but slowly, however, for it was not until 1873 that the "Nawab Nazim's Debts Act," was passed, whereby a sum of nearly seventeen lacs was made payable by the English to the Nawab. This was not all the Nawab got however, for in 1880 he persuaded the Government to give him a further sum of ten lacs in settlement of personal claims and as compensation for certain jewellery. In 1882 the title of Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad was granted to a son, the present Nawab, and in 1887 the further title of Amir-ul Omrah was conferred, the effect of both being to give their owner precedence among the nobility of Bengal. For some reason not adduced, it has now been decided to retrench the title of Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, and the result is the indenture in the *Gazette* to which we have referred. The last titular Nawab of Bengal thereby ceases to have official existence, and officially, the holder of the office once filled by Ali Vardi Khan and Suraj-ud-Dowla has passed away. It is almost exactly a century ago since Murshidabad and its Nawab lost their historical importance, if not their grandeur, for in 1790 Lord Cornwallis finally transferred the supreme criminal jurisdiction to Calcutta. Time was, a contemporary says, "when the ruler of Bengal at Murshidabad, as an act of kindness, recieved English merchants suing for a trading license: now the descendants of the poor traders by an inconsiderable money payment and a few drops of printer's ink sweep away the last shred of regal dignity from the men who were formerly their patrons."

ACCORDING to a recent circular of the Calcutta High Court, all District Courts have issued notifications to the effect that all documents filed in suits which have been decided twenty years ago should, unless taken back by the parties, be destroyed after the lapse of one month from the date of the issue of such notification. Moreover, all records of rent cases decided twenty years ago should be likewise destroyed unless the parties interested therein speedily apply for the necessary certified copies. The pleaders of the Courts have been duly apprised of this, and steps will no doubt be taken to inform the general public as fully as possible by advertisements in the papers.

Thursday, 9th April.

OF late traffic on the G. I. P. Railway has been greatly delayed owing to a series of minor accidents to trains and the immense goods traffic. The disasters culminated on Monday morning in a collision between a goods and a passenger train at Coorla, which blocked the line for six hours. One guard was killed.

IN spite of the constant rumours to the contrary, it is quite certain that the Viceroy has never adopted any of the numerous plans that have been suggested to him for spending the summer out of Simla. The stories about Darjiling, the Nilgiris and Mysore are fictions pure and simple; and if His Excellency had not made up his mind before, it is not likely that he will be doing so just at present when there are so many reasons of sorts to make it difficult for him to leave the seat of Government.—*Pioneer*.

WITH reference to the recent out-breaks in different parts of the country simultaneously the *Pioneer* writes:—"It is curious how from one end of the Empire to the other, risings and ferments which can have no possible connection with each other, have managed to select a simultaneous moment for breaking out. The most far-fetched ingenuity would be taxed to show that the Manipur outbreak could have been heard of in the Miranzai country, much less that it has in any way influenced the north-western tribesmen to renew the disturbances on that frontier: and not by the wildest supposition can we imagine any external examples to have acted on the minds of the Chins, primitive savages who often cannot understand each other's language at a distance of two or three villages. Yet these latter have just chosen the present inopportune moment to make an aggressive demonstration. Mr. MacNabb, the political officer at Haka, has just encountered a body of some 700 of them, who drove back his small force with very considerable loss. The meaning of this is that the road between Haka and Fort Tregear will be closed until this tribe has been punished and brought to order, and that joint operations will be required from Burma and Chittagong to effect this most necessary object."

THE *Indian Mirror* says:—

On hearing of the dire tragedy ending in the brutal massacre, at Manipur, the Chief Commssioner of Assam, the Political Resident, and others, who were prisoners, His Highness the Maharajah Sura Chunder Singh and brothers have gone into mourning, and have ordered a general mourning to be observed by his followers, expressive of his deep indignation at the unparalleled brutality which has disgraced the purely Hindu Manipur State.

THE Lahore paper understands that the Judges of the local Chief Court have intimated to the counsel engaged on both sides, in the appeal in the Warburton defamation case, that they consider the facts against Sirdar Dyal Singh, proprietor of the *Tribune*, sufficient for his conviction. They did not, therefore, wish to hear Mr. Gouldsbury on behalf of Mr. Warburton, except upon the technical question whether the offence of which the Sirdar was convicted was contained in the complaint, and, if not, whether from this circumstance the Magistrate exceeded his jurisdiction.

SIR ALEXANDER RENDEL being of opinion that docks may be constructed close to Madras Harbour, Mr. Pogson, the Harbour Works Engineer, has prepared plans and estimates for a large wet dock and graving dock. It is estimated to cost not more than ninety lakhs of rupees. It is urged that the Madras docks would have the advantage of being quite independent of the tides.

IT is stated that Earl Spencer will probably assume the leadership of the Liberal party in the House of Lords in succession to late Lord Granville.

THE *Times* has published a long letter from the pen of Sir J. Caird, in which the writer says that the first duty of Indian statesmen is to gradually secure an increase of food production of the country in proportion to the growth of the population. To accomplish this the system of agriculture must be converted from the exhaustive to the restorative. He advises a gradual increase in the area of cultivated land, and in the produce on the land now under cultivation. In conclusion, he urges those in authority to facilitate the conversion of the land held on leasehold tenure into free holdings.

RAJA SIR MADHAVA RAO has left three sons. The eldest is Chief Secretary to the Mysore Government; the second is a Deputy Collector in Madura; and the third was ministering to the Raja's comfort in his old age. He has also left three daughters and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. He died surrounding by a large number of relatives.

LORD HARRIS, Governor of Bombay, on the occasion of his visit to Rutnagherry, the other day, granted an audience to Theebaw, the deposed King of Burmah.

Friday, 10th April.

THE telephone between London and Paris has been completed, and is now in full working order. It was considered a wonderful feat when forty years ago the first telegraph wire linked the French and English capitals, but to-day the human voice itself can send the necessary message over the 270 odd miles. The laying of the cable—the first in connection with the telephone—and of the land wires seems to have been accomplished with great skill, and the whole affair reflects the highest credit upon all concerned. Nothing could exceed the good feeling which has prevailed since the project was mooted. It originated with the French Government, was warmly taken up by the English, and both sides have thrown themselves into its realisation with an enthusiasm which says much (a London paper thinks) for the desire for friendship latent in French and English breasts. As France conceived the idea, so French were the first words sent along the line.

THE Government of the Argentine Republic has issued a decree compelling two State Banks to suspend payment of deposits until June next. In consequence of this official notice further disturbances are anticipated.

THE *Daily Telegraph* publishes a telegram from St. Petersburg stating that on Monday last during a review of the Imperial Guards, the police, previous to the arrival of the Czar, arrested a man amongst the spectators, who, on being searched, was found to be carrying a loaded revolver. Some deadly poison was also found on his person.

PRESIDENT HARRISON has refused his sanction to the opening up of negotiations with Canada for the establishment of a commercial treaty between the two countries, on the ground that he sees no prospect of success. It is believed that the President resents the attacks made upon America during the recent Canadian electoral campaign.

LORD WOLSELEY was present, on February 28th, at a gymnastic competition in the Leinster Hall, Dublin. After distribution he said, there was one circumstance, which he noticed with very great pleasure, and that was that in connection with this gymnasium special classes were being opened for ladies. He regarded that as a step in the right direction, as such a training was as necessary for girls as for boys. It was proposed to make physical exercises and training a necessary part of education in England, and he hoped that that would be carried out, and that the day would soon come when all schools, both for males and females, would pay attention to this most necessary portion of the training of youth. Let physical and mental studies go hand in hand, for in his opinion strength of mind and strength of body should proceed *pari passu*.

THE *Indian Appeal* for March last, announces that "young Indian gentlemen now residing in England", have formed a Society for discussing political and social questions, with Mr. Dadabhai Nowroji as their President. The meetings of the society will, it is said, be held in the premises of the Political Agency in London.

THE character of the weather and state of prospects of the crops in various Districts in Bengal up to 4th instant, are generally of a satisfactory nature. Sowings of paddy for the next year have commenced in Naddea, Jessore, Pubna and other Districts. From the District of Gya, it is reported that 6-anna *ravi* crops was damaged by the unusual rain in March.

THE Grand Dukes Alexis Sergius of Russia, and *suite* arrived at Delhi, on the 4th instant, from Ulwar, where they had very good sport. They remained at Delhi till Tuesday last, when they left for Hurdwar to see the Kumbh Fair.

WE read the following in the *Hydera-bad Record*:—"Our readers are, no doubt, aware of the defamation case pending against our contemporary, the Madras *Hindu*. A suit claiming 60,000 Rupees damages was filed in the Madras High Court by Mr. Themenhere, General Storekeeper of the South Indian Railway, for the insinuation contained in the *Hindu* that Mr. Tremenhere made away with stores to the value of the amount of damages claimed and went into French Territory. The issues have been framed: the plaintiff has refused to accept the unreserved apology published by the *Hindu* and the sum of 100 rupees which was tendered as damages. We now hear that His Highness the Nizam's Government have upon the representation of certain officials who consider themselves to have been grossly libelled by the Hydarabad correspondent of the *Hindu* in his weekiy letters, handed over the issues complained of to their Solicitors and objection is taken to 29 passages contained therein."

THE Portuguese authorities in South-East Africa have stopped all traffic on the Pungwe river until the people of the British South African Company evacuate Massikessi territory.

Saturday, 11th April.

MR. W. S. CAINE writes thus of his visit to the Maharaja of Baroda: "We were taken to the old palace, in the heart of the city, to see the treasure room. Two huge cheetahs, carefully muzzled, used for hunting bucks, were on the palace steps. The regalia of Baroda is valued at £3,000,000 sterling. We were first shown the jewels worn by the Maharjah on State occasions. These consist of a gorgeous collar of 500 diamonds, some of them as big as walnuts, arranged in five rows, surrounded by a top and bottom row of emeralds of the same size: the pendant is a famous diamond called 'The Star of the Deccan.' An aigrette to match is worn in the turban; then followed strings of pearls of perfect roundness, graduated from the size of a pea to that of a large marble; wonderous rings, necklaces, clusters of sapphires and rubies as big as grapes. The greatest marvel of all is a carpet, about ten feet by six, made entirely of strings of pure and coloured pearls, with great central and corner circles of diamonds. This carpet took three years to make, and cost £200,000. This was one of Khande Rao's mad freaks and was intended to be sent to Mecca to please a Mahomedan lady who had fascinated him; but the scandal of such a thing being done by a Hindu prince was too serious, and it never left Baroda. We were also taken to see two guns, weighing 280 pounds each, of solid gold, with two companions of silver, the ammunition wagons, bullock harness and ramrods all being silver."

LORD SALISBURY, speaking on Chemistry, said Astronomy is largely composed of the science of things as they probably are; Geology of things as they probably were a long time ago; Chemistry of things as they actually are at the present time. He remembered an Oxford Professor who said that one thing he valued in the system of the Quarternion was that it appeared perfectly impossible that it would be defiled by any utilitarian application. His Lordship also said that the difference between Chemistry now and as it was is this—the atom has been dethroned, and the bacillus reigns in its stead.

THE number of cotton mills working in India is 114. These mills give employment to over 99,224 persons every day. Out of these 114 mills, 82 are in the Bombay Presidency, of which 60 are in the town and island of Bombay. During the last ten years the number of mills has increased from 51 to 114, while, the number of persons employed has increased from 61,834 to 99,224. Besides these cotton mills, there are 26 mills for working jute and one for working hemp, giving an employment to 61,911 persons every day. There are also two woollen mills, and eight paper mills.

A REMARKABLE criminal romance is reported from Japan. The Judge of the Fuknye Court, Goto has been arrested and brought to Nagasaki, where he is to be tried as an escaped convict, sentenced ten years ago to imprisonment for life. He was convicted, it is said, after several small offences of embezzling some hundred dollars from his employers and sent to the Muke coal mines. About a year afterwards he made his escape, and after lying *perdu* for some time assumed a new name and commenced to study law. In 1883 he was appointed Secretary to the Oita Court, and in 1887 Judge of the Court at Fukney. This position he held until he was arrested

THE total number of births registered in Calcutta, in January was 665 against 739 in the preceding month, giving an annual ratio of 18·4 against 20·4 per, 1,000 of the population. This is less than six of the corresponding figures of the past decade, and is also less than the average of the decennium by 18. Of the 665 births, 377 were males and 288 females. The decennial mean was 683. The total number of deaths (exclusive of still-births) registered in January, was 1,264 against 1,337 in the preceding month, showing an an annual ratio of 35·0 against 37·0 per 1,000 of the population. The proportion of male to female deaths was as 152 to 100. The monthly total exceeds all the corresponding figures of the past decade excepting 1883. There were 134 deaths from cholera against 157 in the preceding month. The number exceeds six of the corresponding figures of the last ten years, and also exceeds the decennial mean by 23. There was no death from small-pox during the month under record against one in the preceding month. From fevers there were 436 deaths registered against 478 in the previous month. The total exceeds all the corresponding figures of the past ten years and also surpasses the decennial mean by 97. There were 159 deaths from bowel-complaints against 164 in the preceding month. The number is less than all the corresponding figures of the past decade excepting 1884, and is also below the average of the past decennium by 19. The mortality from other causes amounted to 508 against 507 in the previous month. The total exceeds five of the corresdonding figures of the past decennium and also surpasses the decennial mean by 7.

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The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1891.

THE MANIPUR DISASTER.

OUR worst suspicions have been confirmed, and vague rumours about the safety of the heroic band of Europeans at Manipur have been completely set at rest. On the 5th instant Babu Rasiklal Kundu, head clerk of the Political Agency, telegraphed to the Deputy Commissioner of Kohima :—

"Postal and telegraphic communication being stopped, I could not report full particulars of the sad occurrence which happened here on 24th ultimo. Chief Commissioner, Political Agent, Colonel Skene, Mr. Cossins, Lieutenant Gordon, Lieutenant Simpson, Lieutenant Brackenbury, Mr. Melville, and several native officers and sepoys are killed in action. Treasury and stores are plundered, and all Government buildings and quarters of British subjects and employes burnt; all captives are released and sent off to Cachar and Kohima. I and Chandra Singh, late Manipuri interpreter, are detained by Durbar against our will to render assistance to our own Government as well as to the State.

Lieutenant-Gordon's safety is fortunately assured. In regard to the others the sad tale is but too true. Official and non-official *comminques* have confirmed the report and the Manipur Juvaraj who was written to by the Government of India, has admitted that Mr. Quinton's party has been killed, though full particulars of the catastrophe do not fully appear. The Juvaraj says that on the 24th of March his palace was attacked and his soldiers were killed, and that the Manipuris fought for their religion as the temples were desecrated. In consequence his people slew Mr. Quinton and the officers with him. The Juvaraj admits that a large number of Gurkhas were killed, but according to the messengers the Maharaja asserts that the insurrection was quite spontaneous. Owing to the attempted arrest of the Senapati and the overbearing manner of the military his people were out of hand, and could not be deterred, it is said, from slaying the Chief Commissioner and his party. All the Native prisoners were, however, well treated and released. Some have gone *via* Cachar and some *via* Kohima, and the Maharaja, it is said, rationed all these people. Retribution, however, is at hand and will meet the perpetrators of the terrible crime very speedily. Lieutenant Grant is still holding out at Thobal and fighting on the Tammu side is reported, with the consequence that British troops have had to retire. It is said that united action is what is required, not small ineffectual attacks. The Senapati, the author of all the trouble, and two other Manipuri Chiefs whose names are unknown have been killed and the villages in front have warned the authorities that they are ready to receive the British Government directly the troops enter Manipuri territory.

According to a further telegram a messenger from Manipur is said to have arrived at Silchar, with a letter from the Regent, addressed to the Viceroy, saying that he has killed the Senapati because of the murder of the European prisoners, and desiring peace. A refugee states that he saw the mutilated bodies of the British officers; their heads, hands, and feet cut off. It is also stated that Colonel Skene was killed first, then Lieutenant Simpson, afterwards the others, Messrs. Grimwood, Cossins, Quinton, and Melville. The military authorities are fully alive to the necessity of making a rapid advance, but the transport question is the difficulty in the Naga Hills. It is reported that all the Manipuri thannas between Mao and Sengmai have been abandoned, and that the Manipuris are said to be fortifying a position near Sengmai. The Senapati went west to Dib Raja, near Lelung, six miles on the Burma side of Manipur.

A Gouhatti telegram says that it is now ascertained that the rising had been previously arranged and that communications had been carried on with Calcutta. The telegram does not say whether the communication was with some Manipur spy in Government employ, who disclosed to the Senapati Mr. Quinton's secret plans or the deposed Maharaja, but the innuendo evidently is with regard to the latter. This insinuation is as unjust as absurd, for the poor Maharaja could have no interest in the rising. Supposing the object of Mr. Quinton's movement to have been the ultimate re-installment of Maharaja Surachandra he himself could not think of thwarting it. The conclusion, therefore, must be that the wily Senapati must have had information beforehand which was corroborated by the strength of Mr. Quinton's escort.

There have been large fires in Rangoon and Wuntho. It is to be hoped that incendiaries have no hand in it. The temporary success at Manipur has evidently emboldened malcontents and complications are reported from Burma. The wire being interrupted between Tammu and Kandal Burma is the only telegraphic route available. This also was interrupted for a short while but through communication has since been resumed. MR. Macnabb, the Political Officer of the Chin Hills, has been attacked by a stray body of Chins at Tammu, about forty miles west of Haka. He had a hundred men and two guns with him. The information received has been scanty; but it is probable that his men fell into an ambush. Five were killed and more wounded, among the latter being Lieutenant Forbes. The force returned to Haka, where steps are being taken to punish the attackers. The Government of Bengal will co-operate on the northern side. The attackers are said to be the Llangtlang, who have given much trouble for the past four or five years.

News has been received from Rangoon, that the Chin levies have left the Manipur Regent and retired to their hills; and that the British troops had occupied the Lalauton Thana or Sie bong Thana in Manipur. From Cachar, with the exception of the Kaungsai or Zati tribes, it is reported that all the Chin tribes will welcome the overthrow of the Manipur power. This is of course somewhat reassuring. A serious fire broke out at Ahloee, a suburb of Rangoon, on Wednesday, doing great damage. The Karen Baptist College had a narrow escape. It is announced from Burma that telegraphic communication has been re-established between Tammu and Kendal, on the Chindwin River.

The Pioneer Company of the Calcutta Volunteer Corps with a large contingent from the Military classes of the Medical College, all under the command of Captain Cox, have been sent to Manipur on active duty. The Pioneer Company consists as is well-known of West Indians and Africans who are hardy and brave and therefore well calculated to be of great benefit for road-making purposes to the Regular mountain battery which it accompanies. The Naval Volunteers also offered their service, but their rather heavy artillery was not considered well suited for such action as will be demanded in Manipur. Many who would be otherwise glad to go under Captain Cox's command could not do so on account of their inability to obtain leave. It is quite pleasing to notice our civic warriers readily coming to the aid of Government in the crisis. The offer of services of the Surma Valley Agent House has also been accepted. The Regulars and volunteers will vie with each other in restoring British supremacy in the disturbed country. The best wishes of the country follow and may their venture be complelety successful at no distant date.

Reuter telegraphs from London that Colonel Johnstone, late Resident in Manipur, has written to the press warning the Government against despatching an unduly large punitive expedition, and strongly deprecating the annexation of that country. The tone of the telegrams from Simla seem to indicate no very strong desire for annexation either. The *Englishman*, however, is already singing a pean in praise of "our next annexation," which is jarringly out of place. The *de facto* prince is temporarily without power, and his persecutors, the rebels who have defied British power have been or will be punished. All the more glory and honor to the British *raj* for upholding the power of the deposed prince. Selfish reasons may be unblushingly preached, and bad government and family dissensions may be put forth in extenuation, as is being done already. But surely not the worst crimes of the rebels will justify the annexation of the country for which Government has not displayed the slightest desire as yet. The sop to our Mahomedan fellow-subjects does not much relieve the sickening character of the article dealing with the annexation as if it is almost an accomplished fact. It is too early thus to embarass Government and to force its hands as it were upon a certain line of policy. When British supremacy has been restored in Manipur, which we hope and pray may be done on as early a date as possible, there will be proper enquiry, the offenders will be meted out condign punishment and Government will have enough time to shape out its policy in the light of facts that may be eliminated.

THE REPORT OF THE SIXTH NATIONAL CONGRESS.

THE report of the Sixth National Congress has been published betimes, which is very praiseworthy indeed. But apart from reasons of punctuality one cannot help regretting that great care should not have been taken in editing it, for a better digested, more carefully revised and above all a more liberally conceived report would have beyond questioning enhanced the value of the cause. In most instances the proofs of the speeches were not and perhaps could not have been sent round to the various speakers for correction, and the result is a medley of indifferent reporting and worse editing in many cases. If the executive of the Congress acted more vigorously the speeches could have been sent round in time and thus an easily avoidable evil need not have occurred at all.

Careless editing, however, is perhaps the most excusable point of the publication, for graver charges are unfortunately to be laid to the door of those who had its publication. The report bears no signature and the public has no means of judging whether the President or the Chairman of the Reception Committee, or either of the General Secretaries or any of the Secretaries to the Standing Committee is to be held responsible for whatever may be predicated of the report. The responsibility perhaps need not have been sought to be attached to any particular quarter in this way, if the publishers, whoever they may be, had contented themselves with reporting pure and simple and not imposed upon their no doubt broad shoulders the unnecessary duties of annotators, commentators and elucidators. The report might well have been left to speak for itself, and if for easy reference and handy reading a summary was thought desirable in accordance to precedents there need not have been any officious comments which in some instances have degenerated into unjust, unfair and improper invectives at those with whose views and opinions the draftsman of the summary might not have been in sympathy. The reader may well have been left to judge for himself and conclude whether any particular speech was good, bad or indifferent and this mode of issuing certificates of honor which has been largely and indiscriminately indulged in in the summary is extremely reprehensible. If the authorship of these comments and criticisms were in anywise vouchsafed, the public would be in a position to attach due importance to them, but as it is they are so many stabs in the dark unworthy of the cause and very much injurious to it in the bargain. Individual speakers or delegates might think or speak of any speech or argument in any particular way they thought proper. But the summarist has no such business particularly when his comments and criticisms cannot go forth in the name of the Congress as a whole or any constituted authority.

In illustration of our remarks we shall ask our readers to bear with us for a while as we quote from the summary in reference to the salt amendment, which has elicited a great deal of adverse comment. After quoting from a speaker who is somewhere in the body of the report described as "quaint" and who challenged any one to approve "the cruel grinding of our pauper brethren", the summary tastefully goes on to interject :—

No! Certainly *no one* then present, unless indeed it might be Raja Peary Mohun Mookerjee, who in the

Viceroy's Council supported this cruel enhancement in 1888. But to him doubtless these vehement and unanswerable condemnations of the policy he had supported were unpalatable, and it happened that, at this juncture, a gentleman rose to propose an amendment, which, if entertained seriously by any appreciable section of the assembly would, to a certain extent, have excused his action.

The purport of the amendment was that *there was no necessity for reducing the tax*, but that Government ought to make special rules for special localities regarding the preparation and consumption of salt for the preservation of cattle and industrial purposes. Mr. Deva Prasad Sarvadhikari's speech which may be read, was not devoid of cleverness; he had a bad case and was absolutely ignorant of the salt question, and yet he spoke fluently for a quarter of an hour, making at least some semblance of defending his amendment. To his head as a lawyer his address may not do discredit, but where his heart as a citizen is concerned the verdict must be different.

To the astonishment of all present, Mr. R. D. Mehta of Calcutta rose to second the amendment. He clearly had never considered the subject, and his main point was that there was *no* substantial difference between the original proposition and the amendment! He appears to have been actuated by a chivalrous feeling that every opinion ought to have a hearing, and that as no one *else* would second the amendment, he would. Other speakers followed exposing the fallacy of Mr. D. P. Sarvadhikari's verbal meanderings (they really cannot be called *arguments*); then the amendment was put, no one but the proposer and seconder voting for it, and finally the resolution was carried unanimously, not even Messrs. Mehta and Sarvadhikari seeing their way to oppose it.

The report is inaccurate and misleading, for others besides the mover and the seconder voted in favor of the amendment to our certain knowledge. But supposing no "appreciable section of the assembly" support a proposition, that is to be ascribed more to the cut and dry programme laid down by the Subjects Committee, than to anything else. If there is to be no freedom of discussion the Congress would degenerate into a packed assembly, incapable of any healthy growth. In this particular instance, however, the mover of the amendment was not only not in the Subjects Committee, but after his election was kept out of it in a fashion that he might have very deeply resented if he were at all bellicosely inclined. He was simply doing what he in his own light thought to be his duty and surely so much chaff and badinage at his expense is wholly out of place in a sober public document and can only cover its framers with deserved ridicule. As for Raja Peary Mohun Mukerjee the invectives against him in the summary is wholly beneath his notice, and so Babu Deva Prasad Sarvadhikari said in reference to the "quaint" and other speeches unjustly attacking the Raja. But his speech has been mutilated out of recognition and all trace of his dignified defence to the Raja has been lost to the readers of the Report.

Mr. R. D. Metha is a shrewd man of business well-informed, and of extremely moderate views and opinions. Chivalrous as he is by nature he would not waste his chivalry on an unworthy cause. He exposed the fallacy of the facts and figures rattled away by his compatriot, Mr. Watcha, a while ago, and he showed clearly that the steady exchange dreamt by the opponents of the amendment he chivalrously seconded, was illusory. Many months were not required to show how correct Mr. Mehta's apprehensions were and not long ago had we occasion to remark in these columns that the steady exchange had melted away into thin air, as anticipated by the mover and seconder of the amendment.

The left-handed compliment grudgingly accorded to the mover of the amendment, will not make up for the gross libel that the draftsman of the summary has been knowingly and intentionally guilty of. What is his authority, except perhaps the extreme youth of the speaker, that he was "absolutely ignorant of the salt question." In spite of the storm of opposition that met him from the very beginning, he stood to his gun bravely and manfully to the last, meeting all objections raised by the assembly, wherewith his speech "fluent and not devoid of cleverness and not doing descredit to the head" was throughout interrupted. His intrepid and unflinching boldness excited the admiration of the assembly, wholly opposed as it was to his counsels of sober moderation and the surprise was that he did not collapse as perhaps the draftsman of the report would not have taken many minutes in doing. It is the height of disingenuity to represent that the purport of his amendment was that "there was no necessity for reducing the tax." The *Statesman* and ourselves published the speech *in extenso* at the time which tells a very different tale, and even the garbled report of the summarist will not bear out such an accusation. The amendment as well as the speech fully admitted the evil and in fact it was claimed by Mr. Mehta that the amendment did not *materially* differ from the substantive resolution. It was urged on all hands that the tax should be reduced if only it *could be*. All that was sought to be pointed out was that consistently with the previously accepted Congress programme, and having due regard to practical politics, any material reduction at the present juncture could not be effected. The excise revenues, and the income tax were partially to go, a host of improvements involving increased expenditure were to be effected and the salt tax was to be reduced also. This, Babu Devaprasad Sarvadhikari urged with great force and justice, was impossible as it was the duty of all loyal subjects to provide funds for carrying on the work of Government. He claimed that funds should be provided in the least objectionable way and by as much indirect taxation as possible. That neither he nor Mr. Mehta was a no false prophet was abundantly proved by the reply received from the Government of India just before the publication of the last Budget, to the special representation made in the name of the Congress in this reference. Captious libels are the readiest and most effective instruments in the hands of those smarting under a sense of having been proved wrong, which perhaps accounts for the extraordinary summary that we have been treated to. It is well-known that the mover of the amendment as any one reading his speech will see did not justify taxing the poor man's salt but urged moderation and sobriety and for this he was hissed and hooted in the meeting and has been sought by the summarist to be branded with infamy. The summarist is possibly not aware that in what he said Babu Deva Prasad Sarvadhikari was not in any way unique. He represented the views of many a man of light and leading who having regard to the tone and the spirit of the Congress did not care to go and vote for him at its deliberations.

Indiscretions of this character are unfortunately not confined to the summary only. In the body of the report we are told :—

> On Sunday, the Social Conference assembled in the Congress Pavilion, and passed, after much discussion, various important resolutions in regard to matters of Social Reform. But the Social Conference will, as in former years, publish its own separate Report, and nothing further need be said of it here. The matter is only mentioned because this year, for the first time, some few persons belonging to the old conservative party, addressed a number of representations to the President and General Secretary, and to the Delegates as a body, urging them not to permit the Social Conference to use the Congress Hall, and it is satisfactory to be able to record that not one single Delegate was found willing to support this intolerant proposition.

Quite enough was it, one should have thought, that the Congress Hall was at all permitted to be used for such a purpose. Many there were among the delegates who were perfectly at one with the requisitionists, but who did not care to destroy the prevailing harmony of feeling by unnecessary intolerance. The now "intelligent majority," including one of the General Secretaries to the Congress, may feel jubilant at the downfall of Conservative traditions and hence perhaps this uncalled for expression of triumph. As true lovers of the Congress and the cause, however, we feel it our duty to warn against display of such party spirit. The rocks and shoals ahead are many and dangerous and the instinct of self-preservation ought to dictate as to how to avoid them with tact.

THE PRESIDENCY COMMANDS.

Mr. Buchanan, M. P. has done good service to our country by calling the attention of Parliament to the system of separate Presidential Commands in Madras and Bombay. In his place in the House of Commons, on the 17th of February, Mr. Buchanan brought forward the following resolution :—

"That, in accordance with the recommendation of four successive Governments of India the system of separate Presidential Commands in Madras and Bombay should be abolished and that the entire administration of all the Indian armies should be made over to the Commander-in-Chief in India acting in direct communication with the Commanders of the local armies and under the direct orders of the Government of India." It may be in the recollection of the reader that this subject was discussed in the House of Lords last Session at the instance of the Marquis of Ripon. On the 27th of June, 1890, his Lordship called the attention of the Upper House to the recommendation of the Army Commission and of successive Governments of India in favour of the abolition of the existing arrangements for the Commander-in-Chief of the Madras and Bombay Armies. It was pointed out that in 1881 the Government of India took up the question at the request of Lord Hartington, who was then at the head of the India Office. The Viceroy and the Ordinary Members of the Executive Council were absolutely unanimous in their recommendation for the abolition of the Presidency Commands. But Sir Frederick Haines, the then Commander-in-Chief, differed from his colleagues. He was, however, soon succeeded by Sir Donald Steuart, who supported the proposal of the Government of India. Since then the Governments of Lord Dufferin and Lord Lansdowne and the present Commander-in-Cief, Sir Frederick Roberts, have urged the abolition of the Presidency Commands; but this much-needed reform has not yet been effected. The Government of Lord Dufferin wrote in their despatch of 1st June 1888:—"We believe it to be now generally recognised on all sides that the reform which we are advocating cannot be much longer deferred, and we submit that the present time is peculiarly appropriate for carrying it out. The Government of India in 1881 dwelt on the necessity for making the change deliberately in time of peace, and not waiting till it was forced by the pressure of events. We would urge that this warning still retains all its strength, and that no further delay should occur before utilising the present time of tranquility for the purpose." Lord Cross was so far convinced by these cogent arguments that he actually asked by telegraph for a complete and fully detailed draft of the orders which the Government of India would propose to issue to give effect to their recommendation. The draft General Order was actually prepared by Sir George Chesney with the cordial advice and able assistance of Sir Frederick Roberts. In submitting the Order to the India Office he forwarded a separate Minute in which he strongly advocated the changes and remarked that this great reform, when carried out, would conduce to the highest efficiency of the Indian Army. But Lord Cross, after having proceeded so far, suddenly changed his mind and informed the Government of India that he found himself to enter into the large question of military organisation which had been raised. In replying to the Secretary of State's despatch, the Government of Lord Lansdowne plainly expressed their strong conviction that "it would be a misfortune of the greatest moment if this amendment of the military administration which we consider to be essential to the efficiency of the army in this country, should not be carried out in time of peace which we now fortunately possess, and if the desired change so persistently and impartially advocated by the Government of India were to be postponed until the disastrous experience of war should urge upon Her Majesty's Government the necessity for effecting this most necessary reform of the Indian Army system."

After these strong expressions of opinion by the Governments of Lord Ripon, Lord Dufferin and Lord Lansdowne in favour of the change recommended by the Army Commission, Mr. Buchanan had no difficulty whatever in proving his case. He submitted that under the existing system a war on the Indian frontier was conducted, not as if we had a single army in the field, but as though two allied armies were engaged in the same operation, and were subject to all the disadvantages, difficulties, and jealousies which a dual com-

mand entailed. Mr. Buchanan rightly insisted that this was pre-eminently and exclusively an Indian question and should be decided accordingly. He observed :—"He could quite understand that there were considerations attaching to the war office authorities at home which ought to be borne in mind, but he submitted that the interests of India should be made absolutely superior to all professional interests at home. No other interest, professional or departmental, should stand in the way of Her Majesty's Government giving a fair consideration to the representations of the Government of India, and in endeavouring to exercise a little pressure towards a speedy carrying of them out. He also urged on the Government that they should proceed to put the army of India in a state in which all those responsible for its direction might be enabled to feel that a fair return was being had for the money spent upon it, and that it was at the same time adequate for the defence of that part of the Empire." There can be no doubt whatever that Mr. Buchanan has correctly expressed in the passage we have just quoted the true feeling of the Indian people about this question. The resolution was seconded by Sir William Plowden and supported by Mr. Campbell Bannermann, Mr. Munro-Fergusson and Sir Geogre Campbell. Mr. Campbell-Bannerman who it may be remembered, was Secretary of State for War in Mr. Gladstone's Administration, urged that the enormous weight of military and official authority was in favour of reform advocated in Mr. Buchanan's motion. Mr. Munro-Fergusson maintained that it was dangerous to put off longer a reform which had been pressed upon the Home Government by successive Governments of India. Sir George Campbell justly remarked that the present state of things, under which separate commands existed at Madras and Bombay, was an inconvenient survival, and the time had come when it ought to be abolished. All sensible and right-thinking persons will agree with Sir George Campbell that it is no longer necessary that all the expensive paraphernalia of the chief Commands at Bombay and Madras should be kept up.

The resolution was opposed by Sir John Gorst, the Under-Secretary of State for India and by Mr. Edward Stanhope, who had formerly been Under-Secretary for India but is now Secretary of State for War. Sir John Gorst laid special stress on the fact that when Lord Kimberley was at the head of the India Office his Lordship rejected the recommendation of the Government of Lord Ripon for the abolition of the Presidency Commands. In doing this Sir John conveniently forgot that Lord Kimberley, in his speech on the debate raised by Lord Ripon in the Upper House in June last, of which mention has been made above, declared in plain terms that "if her Majesty's Government should come to the conclusion that the time had arrived when they could introduce a Bill for the purpose of carrying these recommendations into effect, they would have no opposition from him." This declaration shows clearly that Lord Kimberley has changed his views and that his Lordship will not now oppose the abolition of the Presidency Commands. Sir John candidly confessed that the most potent objection against the proposal was, that this change could not be carried out without legislation, and he pointed out the difficulty of carrying Indian legislation through the House of Commons. Why Lord Cross and his lieutenant should have such a nervous dread of proposing any Indian legislation in the Lower House we are entirely at a loss to understand. Mr. Stanhope made a more sensible speech than Sir John Gorst. He said :—"He could assure the House that while Her Majesty's Government could not accept this resolution which had been proposed to carry into effect by legislative changes of a wholesale and wide-spreading character, and were not prepared to interrupt the other work of the House of Commons for the purpose of pushing on a measure which would require considerable attention and time for its due consideration, they would take steps to carry into effect whatever experience proved to be necessary to carry out the efficient organisation of the Indian army. The hon'ble member's resolution would pledge Her Majesty's Government to carry out changes of a drastic character by immediate legislation. If the honorable member insisted on pressing his motion, Her Majesty's Government would be forced to oppose it, the resolution would, in that case, probably be rejected, and the House would be affirming that it was not prepared to accept the proposal brought before the House. That was not the spirit in which he desired to approach this subject, but rather as one who sympathised largely with the resolution which had been brought forward." After what fell from the lips of the War Minister, Mr. Buchanan wisely withdrew his motion and the debate came to an end.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY AND THE NORTHBROOK CLUB.

THERE can be little doubt that the high compliment which the Northbrook Indian Club paid to Sir Steuart Bayley, on his return from the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, was well deserved. The members of the Club gave a banquet to Sir Steuart, at which the President, Lord Northbrook, occupied the chair. Many distinguished Anglo-Indians were present on the occasion and letters of regret at being unable to attend were announced from Lords Ripon, Derby, Kimberley and Reay. The proceedings of this festive gathering possess peculiar interest for the people of Bengal, where Sir Steuart Bayley spent nearly the whole period of his Indian service. As usual, there were only two toasts at dinner—the Queen and the guest of the evening. Both the toasts were given by the Chairman in nice little speeches. In proposing the health of the guest of the evening, Lord Northbrook reminded his hearers that Sir Steuart Bayley belonged to a family very intimately connected with India, and went out to the East, encouraged by all the traditions of duty faithfully performed to the people of the country. His Lordship specially referred to Sir Steuart's last and most important office, and justly remarked that, with possibly the exception of the Governorship of Bombay, there was no position in the Indian Empire so difficult to fill as that of Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. That post, Lord Northbrook went on to say, Sir Steuart Bayley had occupied for nearly four years with credit to himself. It was, of course, not to be expected that all his actions as ruler of Bengal should escape criticism, but all sensible and right-minded persons readily admitted his honesty of purpose and his sincere desire to promote the well-being of the people whose destinies were committed to his hands. We fully agree with Lord Northbrook that the selection of our late Lieutenant Governor for one of the most important appointments in the India office, would be beneficial to this country. His lordship observed :—"Public opinion in England was not always right, and what was wanted here were strong men by the side of the Secretary of State—men who would put forward their views frankly and fearlessly, although they might be opposed to popular notions. Such a man was Sir Edward Bradford, and such a man was their honoured guest. All his antecedents justified them in expecting that Sir Steuart Bayley would fulfil his new duties to the advantage, both of India and England." Those who are well acquainted with the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal will fully share the expectation expressed by Lord Northbrook.

SIR STEUART BAYLEY, in responding to the toast made a sensible speech. He rightly looked upon the compliment paid to him by the Northbrook Club as a certificate of good conduct given by those who, from personal experience, knew how vast are the responsibilities of Indian administration. Sir Steuart feelingly referred to the farewell receptions given to him by various classes and nationalities in Bengal on his retirement from the Lieutenant-Governorship, and said :—"I was touched, I may say, I was not a little surprised, for it happened to me, as it must happen to any Governor, who tries to do his duty to tread on the toes of many important interests and to hurt the feelings of many important bodies. One cannot but go contrary to the cherished opinions or principles, and what is still more important to the pockets of many bodies and many interests. One cannot but undergo a severe criticism from many people who see what looks like an injury done and who are not aware of all the circumstances which led to it. But notwithstanding all that, farewell feelings were expressed to me in all quarters, with a kindness and warmth for which I was quite unprepared and for which I am most deeply grateful." Sir Steuart Bayley alluded to the difficulty of governing India, and observed :—"He [Lord Northbrook] has said the task of governing India is a very difficult problem, but England has not yet found a difficulty in sending out officers capable of grappling with the problem, and as long as we can get Viceroys of the stamp of Lord Northbrook and his successors, I shall not admit that England is unequal to the task. But if it is true that the difficulty of governing India generally is a daily growing one, it is probably more true of Bengal than of any other part. Not only is the clash of opposing interests, arising out of differences of race and differences of religion, more acutely felt there, not only are there more numerous contentious questions of policy, but also for these very reasons criticism is more intense than in other provinces, and the difficulty of holding the balance is more keenly felt. In Bengal, moreover, one always feels as if one is sitting upon a volcano. No one knows what will be the cause, some prejudice affected, a small border raid, a little Thibetan aggression, Chinese diplomacy, Mr. Caine and the Excise Department, a little personal difficulty, the action or inaction of one official, the want of reasonable rains, the washing of an embankment, the improper action of a Police officer, any or all of these may combine. While one is sitting in peace, you may find some great floods of trouble is rising, which if one cannot stop it will overwhelm you. That is what I mean by saying that in Bengal one is always sitting on a volcano. But of these difficulties and troubles I think the one I mentioned first is, perhaps, the most important—the clash of opposing interests arising out of race, national and religious antagonisms. It was always foremost in my mind during the time I was Lieutenant-Governor to do what in me lay, to allay the feelings of race antagonism that was exceedingly bitter when I took charge." Even Sir Steuart Bayley's worst enemies will be constrained to admit that his efforts to allay the bitter feeling of race antagonism were not altogether unsuccessful. In the concluding part of his speech Sir Steuart briefly discussed the political aspirations of the educated Natives. He did not hesitate to say that their anxiety to have a large share in the prominent appointments of Government is very natural. He remarked :—"If these aspirations were only for a share in the loaves and fishes, I should not say they were unnatural, but I believe that it is also something more than this, that the aspirations are really to a great extent for influence and for scope for the energies which we have trained. My reason for mentioning this matter is that, I believe, there is a very wrong view as to the attitude which not only Government but the leading officials really take upon the subject. My impression, judging from the conversations and the consultations I have had with almost all the leading officials of India about it, are the same that anybody would derive from reading the published speeches and studying the public actions of the late Viceroy and the present. Nobody who knows what they have said and done can suppose that their attitude is one of cold, unmoveable and inflexible antagonism to those aspirations. I think I may say that a very large portion of the Indian services whould share the views so far as they are known by the public utterances of Lord Dufferin and Lord Lansdowne." We are glad to have Sir Steuart Bayley's assurance that a large portion of the Indian services share the views of Lord Dufferin and Lord Lansdowne to the desirablility of fulfilling the legitimate political aspirations of the educated Natives of India. If so, we do not see any reason why the Indian Councils Bill now before the House of Commons should not provide for the recognition of the elective principle in the constitution of the Councils.

Latest News and Notes.

HIS Honor the Lieutenant Governor is expected back in the Presidency this morning from his Purneah tour.

THE following gentlemen have been appointed members of the Indian Committee at the Congress of Hygiene and Demography which will be held in London in August:—Sir Edward Bradford, Sir James Birdwood, Messrs. H. King, George Yule, and Dadabhai Naoroji.

DURING the absence, from Calcutta, of Mr. A. Phillips, who is proceeding on furlough, Mr. P. O'Kinealy will officiate as Standing Counsel in the High Court.

IT is stated on good authority that Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick will succeed Sir James Lyall next year in the Punjab

WITH deep regret we have to announce the untimely death of our well-known townsman Dr. Behari Lal Bhaduri. He was a Homeopathic medical practitioner of great distinction and an ardent student of the occult sciences, to which he devoted much time and attention. He was very charitably disposed to the poor, and his affable manners endeared him to all who knew him.

THE President of that useful institution, the Darjeeling Jubilee Sanitarium, has appealed for funds for the free accommodation of poor patients, and we hope the appeal will be readily responded to.

BARNUM, the great American showman, is dead. He was a man of vast enterprise, wonderful resources and unlimited pluck and his name is a household word in the civilized world of amusements. Nor did his achievements stop here, for he managed to get himself returned to the Legislature of his country and was for sometime the Mayor of Bridgeport. He had also acquired some distinction in literature and was devoted to the cause of philanthropy.

THE General Assembly Police assault case after a pretty protracted trial has ended in its dismissal. The Police officers concerned have been discharged. The Magistrate in a lengthy written judgment held that the complainant, although he may have lawfully entered the hall, was a trespasser by remaining there unlawfully with the intention of causing insult to Sir Andrew Scoble and annoyance to the Rev. Macdonald, the gentleman in possession of the hall, and he was guilty of house trespass, as defined by section 441 P. C. and that no more force was used towards the complainant than was permitted by section 46 of the C. P. C.

THE remaining 'age of consent case,' as it has been popularly termed by the supporters of the Act, who would do anything to throw dirt on the opposition movement, has also terminated without any body being the worse for it. Several Brahmo gentlemen who had received annoyance from a lad named Hari Moira, in the shape of a shower of *fag* during the *holi* festival, had rushed into court and counter cases against them were laid. Good sense, however, prevailed on both sides and the cases terminated with mutual expression of regret and guarantee to leave the other side unmolested.

THE convention of miners and masters held at Pittsburgh has failed to come to an agreement and seventy thousand men go on strike in favour of the eight hours movement on the 1st of May. A bitter struggle may be expected.

A COMMITTEE of experts including Sir Frederick Leighton is engaged in examining the designs for the new coins to replace the Jubilee issue.

THE following is the list of business to be brought forward at the meeting of the Bengal Council to be held on Saturday next, the 18th instant:—(1) The Hon'ble Mr. Cotton to move for leave the introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Hackney-Carriages and Palanquins in Calcutta; (2) also to apply to the President to suspend the rules, and on their suspension (3) also to introduce the Bill and to move that it be read in Council. (4) Also to move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Allen, the Hon'ble Sir Henry Harrison, the Hon'ble Dr. Rash Behari Ghose, the Hon'ble Mr. Wallis and the mover.

THE *Bengalee* has received the following communication from the Government of Bengal, in connection with a recent paragraph purporting to relate the facts of a gross outrage committed by some soldiers upon a native lady:—

Bengal Secretariat, Calcutta, 8th April 1891.

SIR,—In the issue of the *Bengalee*, dated March 14, a paragraph was published describing circumstantially an alleged outrage committed on a native lady in a 2nd class compartment of a train at Dum-Dum by some European soldiers of the Cantonment there. Careful enquiries have been made into the matter and have failed to elicit any evidence in support of the story which appears to be wholly without foundation. Will you kindly insert this for the information of your readers in the next issue of your paper.—Yours truly, H. LUSON, Under-Secy., Government of Bengal.

THE two following paragraphs in the *Statesman* afford curious reading:—

The Small Cause Court.—A numerously signed petition to the Local Government has been got up by native merchants and shop-keepers in Calcutta, praying the Local Government not to reduce the pecuniary jurisdiction of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, and also not to interfere with the present procedure in reference to defended and undefended suits. The pleaders of the Court have, it is reported, held several meetings lately, and have drawn up a memorial against some of the recent suggestions made by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association, as to reforms in the working of this Court.

At the High Court yesterday before the Hon'ble Mr Justice Wilson, Mr Pugh applied for the re-hearing of two suits instituted under section 38 of the Small Cause Court Act. The original petition was filed on Tuesday at the rising of the Court to save limitation. Yesterday, when Mr Pugh was opening his case, it was discovered that the petition was not stamped as required by section 11 of the Small Cause Court Act. The question then arose as to whether the petitioner could remedy the defect by stamping the petition yesterday. His lordship after hearing Mr. Pugh took time to consider the matter.

The latter paragraph refers to the double payment of advalorem stamp duty for rehearing of Small Cause Court suits in the High Court, of which we are afraid most suitors, for the matter of that, are not aware. If the suitors are opposing the reduction of jurisdiction of the Small Cause Court of their own accord and free will, they must be fools for their pains indeed.

THE rate-payers of Calcutta are to be congratulated upon having escaped increased taxation for at least another year. The formidable appearance of the Budget Estimate had given color to the supposition that the maximum taxation would be resorted to this year, which has, however, been luckily averted. The general rate has been fixed at 9½ per cent by an overwhelming majority, inspite of Sir Henry Harrison's indignant appeal for "ten per cent or even eleven per cent" in the interest of "improvements which must be paid for." Economy would effect real and necessary reforms though fads and faddists will have to wait, and none will be the sufferers thereby except interested idealists. The lighting and sewage rate has been fixed at 2 per cent, and the water rate at 6. The maximum rates provided in the Schedule have been fixed for the trades and profession tax and the horse and carriage tax.

THE Harrington incenerator has been pronounced by the Engineer of the Corporation and partially by the Health Officer as unsuccessful. It operations for the present, however, have been stopped and and the Corporation knows not what to do with the White Elephant on which it has had to pay dearly indeed.

LORD DUFFERIN'S statue by the late Sir Edgar Boehm has arrived in Calcutta. The *Indian Daily News* thus describes it:—"It is the famous sculptor's last work, and in artistic excellence and faithful portrayal of the well-known form and features of the original is quite equal to any of his previous works. It represents Lord Dufferin standing in an easy attitude, his left foot slightly advanced, his right hand resting on his hip, while in his left he has gathered up the folds of the cloak which falls from his shoulders. He is attired in full court dress, and is wearing all his orders and decorations. The whole pose of the figure, the natural fall of the drapery, and the working out of the details are singularly pleasing and complete, while as a likeness it is equally effective." The statue is to be located in the circular plot at the head of the Red-road.

THE Lord Bishop of Calcutta has left India for England where his Lordship will be absent for seven months. During his absence the Ven. Archdeacon Mitchell will have charge of the business of the diocese.

HAVING regard to the standard of efficiency attained by Rurki Engineering students, the *Statesman* justly complains of the meagre patronage that Government vouchsafes them. Messrs Wickes and Holderness, observes our contemporary, speak highly of their drawings, surveys and note-books, as well as of the excellent work done in recent years by Engineers and subordinates who had been trained in the institution. There is no reason why a much larger share of the appointments in the Public Works Department should not be bestowed on Rurki students." As far as ordinary works are concerned, they are probably as efficient for all practical purposes as the men turned out by Cooper's Hill College, or as any that can be procured in the open market in England. As for works of peculiar character or special difficulty, what is wanted is actual experience of a kind which no merely educational institution can supply. Even in the case of such works, however, there is no reason why the requirements of India should not be met, to a large extent, by men born and educated in the country. As we pointed out recently, the abolition of Cooper's Hill College—for the maintenance of which there is no longer a shadow of justification—would place at the disposal of the Government a large annual sum which might be beneficially employed in sending deserving Rurkee students and others to England, to acquire, in the works of the great engineering firms there, such special experience as is not attainable in India." It is a source of great gratification to us in Bengal that for the third time within a comparatively short period, a Bengali has carried off the best prizes and highest honors. The following is the best record:—

At the public examination, recently held at the above institutions, we observe that Babu Norendro Kumar Mitter, B.A., from the Presidency College, Calcutta carried away all the chief prizes which were open to competition on the occasion. Not only did he obtain a higher certificate as assistant engineer, but he was also awarded the Council of India's prize of Rs 100 as the most distinguished student, the Thompson prize of Rs. 250 as the best Indian student, and Sir P. Cutley's gold medal as the best mathematician of the year. The same genleman further won General Taclagan's prize for science, and passed as qualified in photography. Babu Norendro Kumar Mitter's triumphs reflect great credit both on himself and the college in which he was educated.

THE *Statesman* is in perfect sympathy with our complaint as to the alternative historical books for the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University. Our contemporary observes:—"The only thing that can be said in extenuation of this blunder, or, as the *Patriot* calls it, this piece of jobbery, is that, after all, it is discretional with the student which book he shall take up. We know of nothing, however, that can be said in favour of giving students a choice between reading what is true and adequate, and reading what is inadequate and misleading. It may be that Mr. Wheeler's history is simpler and more likely to be readily assimilated by non-Hindu students; but this only makes the mistake the more dangerous." Our Senators blinded by prospects of patronage do not seem always to realise the responsibilities of their duties.

A BIG law suit is going on at Bhagulpur which a correspondent thus describes:

The late Raja Nilananda Singh married thrice. By his first wife he has one son, Raja Padmananda Singh, and three daughters; by his second wife he has one daughter; and by his third wife, who is still living, he has two sons. A dispute has lately arisen between the present Raja and his step-mother, as she claims 1¼ crores of rupees from the Raja on behalf of her minor sons, which, she says, they are entitled to, as being the legitimate sons of the late Raja. The case first came up for hearing on the 30th of last month, and has been continuing ever since. Eminent barristers, to wit, Messrs. Woodroffe, Bonnerji, Evans, and others have been engaged on both sides, and almost all the pleaders of the Bhagulpore bar have also been engaged.

There is a dearth of senior counsel consequently in Calcutta, which will continue for some time.

A BRAMHO lady, named Srimati Girija Sundari Roy, was murdered on Monday night near the Sadharan Bramho Somaj premises under circumstances that have since been cleared up. A shocking and cruel villainy it was the poor girl being hacked to pieces by a dagger and her body and face being covered with no less than twelve wounds. Babu Devi Prasanna Roy Chowdhuri the brother-in-law of the deceased and a well-known Bramho writer, deposed before the Coroner:

About a month ago he had placed the deceased in Miss Neale's school for her education. He had received several letters from Miss Neale which that lady said had been addressed to the deceased by Babu Ambica Churn Bose, whom he saw at the Campbell Hospital, suffering from the effects of opium poisoning. Umbica Churn Bose had eloped with the girl from her father's house and had taken her to Burrisal where they lived together for two or three days when she complained to one Rakhal Chunder Roy, who with the assistance of the police, rescued her and brought her down to Calcutta. She went to his (witness'es) house and he placed her in Miss Neale's school.

The girl was spending the evening with Miss Neale, who on the eve of her departure for England gave her pupils a farewell party. She returned home in the School omnibus at about 10 P. M. Nundalal Das deposed:—

On Monday night he was standing near the Brahmo Church when he saw a carriage, with three women in it, halt near the church. Two of the women got down and proceeded into a lane. The third woman had just got down when a man rushed up and struck her with an instrument resembling an axe. She screamed out and fell down. A passer-by, who came to her rescue, was also assaulted and fell down. Witness then stated that he recognised Ambica Churn Bose at the Sealdah Hospital as being the man whom he saw on Monday night committing the murder.

AMBICA CHURN BOSE was cured of the effects of opium poisoning and was arrested after his discharge from hospital. The prisoner made the following confession to the Coroner on Friday last:—

I do not wish to make any statement. I murdered the woman and I am satisfied. She ruined my life. She was false to me and I took her life. But I do wish to say that the knife produced by the police is not the knife I used. I never saw it before. I killed the woman with a dagger. As to the statement that my name was entered in the Campbell Hospital as Prosunno Comar I wish to state that I did not suggest that this should be done. I never intended to deny the committal of the deed. I confessed it before and after I went to the hospital; and as soon as I recovered from the effects of the opium I had swallowed, even before I knew the police were on my track. I took the opium shortly before I committed the deed, and after I had finished a letter to my mother telling her that I was going to murder the deceased and would afterwards kill myself. I was married to the deceased in 1890. She had made me mad in her love. She had borne me a child, which she had destroyed. She thus disgraced me, and lately she had deserted me and intended marrying some one else. That is all.

Some writers in the Press have been absurd enough to try in the first instance to mix up this unfortunate case with the Consent Act, as if the remotest possible connection could there be between the two.

THE Miranzai hostilities assumed grave propositions early in the week. A Lahore telegram dated the 6th instant, says:

Urgent messages from Hangu last night report that there had been heavy firing all yesterday on our working parties and on the Goorkhas of the 29th Punjab Infantry, and also on 3rd Sikhs on the Samana and Kohat border. The firing commenced about midday and continued till dusk. The casualties on our side were nine men killed and four wounded. The enemy's loss is not reported. The Akhels, Alikhels, Aisherzaib, Rabbia, Shers, Sherkhans, all joined in the firing which was renewed this morning. The enemy are reported to have been seen in considerable numbers along Samana. A stronger reenforcement has been sent to cope with the situation and no further fighting has yet been reported.

THE *St. James' Gazette* announces that Mr. Justice Stephen retires from the Bench on account of ill-health. He has been ill long and in consequence latterly became quite erratic and excitable even on the bench. The profession and the public were displeased and hints were pretty broadly thrown out from the press that unless he resigned at once of his own motion he would ere long be compelled to do so. Mr. Stephen will be long remembered in India as the law-member that codified the Criminal law of the country during 1871-72 and gave it a number of Acts that in lucidity and clearness, compare favourably with the corresponding English Statutes.

A CONVENTION assembled at Sydney for the purpose of discussing the question of the federation of the Australian Colonies, has drafted a Bill proposing a federal constitution for Colonies with the title of the Commonwealth of Australia. Provision has been made for the Crown to appoint a Governor-General. The English Press comment upon the Republican title which it is proposed to give to the Australian Colonies when federated, but otherwise are favourable to the Bill drafted by the Sydney Convention.

MR. CAINE, writing to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, explains, in connection with the strictures passed upon him by the *Times*, that he sent a reply to that journal declining to withdraw charges which he had never made, but that his letter was not published by the *Times*.

THE *Pucca* results of the Entrance Examination were published in the *Calcutta Gazette* on Wednesday last. The total number of successful candidates were 2151 of whom 330 have been placed in the first division, 958 in the second and 863 in the third.

PROFESSOR FORREST, Director of Records, who has lately been examining records in the Chunar fort, has gone to Madras for a short time. There he will chiefly examine documents relating to Bengal.

THE Students' Association, which can show a good record of service to the community it represents, has been reconstituted under excellent auspices. It will now be conducted on the basis of the great debating clubs at Cambridge and Oxford and will have a reading room attached to it for the exclusive use of students. The Graduates' Association also might, with advantage, be revived and it is necessary that it should be.

SIR ANDREW SCOBLE, whom his reforming friends in Bengal did not honor perhaps by way of farewell as much as might have been expected, seems to have fared a shade better in Bombay. Two entertainments were got up and there was no occasion for any Police escort. Those that talk of a memorial might be reminded that there can be none more permanent or effectual than the obnoxious law with which his name will be associated for all time to come and will thus be handed to posterity. Mr. Ilbert's name was coupled only with a Bill, Sir Andrew's is greater, for it is coupled with an Act.

LIGHT seems to have been shed, though somewhat late in the day, upon "editorial realities." Speaking of the inoperative character of the Consent Act, a contemporarynow observes with great force:

There is little provision out of the Presidency towns to determine what is the real age of girl in this country, and it is doubtful whether reliable information or evidence of age can be had through the existing means. Horoscopes may be all correct and trustworthy. But with the Act in operation, there are increased temptations to tamper with evidence as to age: and it may devolve upon the parties themselves to adduce proofs which might not bear the test of examination. It will be only through the adoption of a general system of Registration of Births, Marriages, and Deaths that trustworthy evidence will be available on these points.

The pity of it is that this among other matters which were advanced by the opposition as having practical bearing of the question was poohpoohed and disregarded by blind and interested zeal. If our contemporary's present contention be correct—and it is beyond doubting—girls already in existence cannot well be brought within the purview of the Act and for the benefit of those about to be born in the near or distant future a new and complete machinery of registration should at once be introduced. Lord Dufferin was clearly and distinctly of opinion in his memorable Malabari Resolution, that Government should undertake no social law that could not be enforced by existing machinery. As regards horoscopes they are wholly inadmissible under present rulings, unless the *acharya* who prepared it be forthcoming to prove it. So the whole heaps of horoscopes, manufactured and genuine, may go their way and none be the wiser for it. All these things should have been taken into consideration by the Government before enacting the law.

SIR FREDERICK ROBERTS has finally abandoned his tour, his presence being required at Simla in connection, we suppose, with the Manipur, the Miranzai and the Black Mountain businesses.

THE Municipality is not daunted by difficulties in its way. Fresh tenders will be invited for lighting the Central Road by electricity. Bombay does not seem to have fared much better either in the matter of the novelty of street lighting by electricity. Some time ago the Commissioners invited estimates for lighting a certain number of streets, but competitors were required not only to provide all the necessary plant, but to make the experiment for a period of two years at their own risk. These terms were so uninviting that, although the contract was freely advertised in England and America, only three replies were received. The lowest of these estimates amounted to thrice as much as the Municipality had voted for the purpose. The area to be experimentally lighted will probably be now reduced, and the lowest tender will be accepted

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THE Governor of Madras has wired to Sir T. Madava Rao's eldest son expressing his deep sorrow on hearing the news of the death of his father.

SIR H. MILLER, the new legal member, reached Simla on Wednesday. No meeting of the Legislative Council will be held this month.

DISQUIETING news comes from Madras. It appears that a serious riot occurred on Saturday night (4th April) at the police station near the lines of the 25th Madras Infantry. It is alleged that there has been a bad feeling between the police and the Sepoys owing to the former arresting some of the latter a short time ago. On Saturday night over a hundred Sepoys in plain clothes with faces muffled and armed with sticks attacked the police station. Six constables and a writer were severely beaten. The furniture and the telephone were then smashed, and the Sepoys went to a neighbouring bazaar, committed mischief and looted the shops. Two constables are in hospital severely injured. Many arrests have been made. Such unruly conduct on the part of the Military cannot be tolerated, particularly in view of the various expeditions in which Government has unfortunately to be engaged in in the different parts of the country.

Correspondence

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENCE.]

London, March 20th 1891.

INDIAN STUDENTS AND ENGLISH INFLUENCES.

THIS was the subject of a paper read by Mr. James Routledge at a meeting of the National Indian Association, held on the 18th of this month at the Westminister Town Hall. Sir W. W. Hunter presided and there was a goodly number of Indian gentlemen present amongst a larger number of English people interested in the work of the Association. Mr. Routledge is well acquainted with India from long residence there and his friendship with many who have had to do with Indian movements; and his reminiscences were of an interesting character. But it can hardly be said that he gave us the result of his experience in quite the practical way one would have desired and in some respects there was a feeling that he had somewhat lost touch of matters as they were moving at present. This became evident in the course of the speeches which followed from Sir W. Hunter and several Hindu gentlemen who were more effective than the essayist himself in really putting before us the actual condition of affairs and the mutual relations of Indians and Englishmen in India. A correspondent of his in India had written to him "India is much changed for the worse since you knew it and both Indians and Englishmen are learning to think too much of themselves." This was understood to mean that there was less disinterested feeling and more regard to personal interests than there used to be; but it was strenuously denied by subsequent speakers. Nor did Mr. Routledge quite accept his friend's views for he gave several instances by way of example of useful social work such as the establishment of hospitals and of schools of science and medicine in which the co-operation of Indians and Englishmen was most hearty and had been productive of the greatest good. In other respects Mr. Routledge carried with him the sympathies of the audience. For instance he spoke of the importance of legislation in India being the result of growth from within and not a mere imposition from without. He specially mentioned the two topics of child marriage and the Factory Acts; and said, the pungent remarks of the "*Hindoo Patriot*" upon the former subject clearly pointed out the only reasonable and effective line of conduct in such matters. To act otherwise is as unreasonable as "to ask Indian gentlemen in Indian towns to wear English evening dress, or Indian workers to dine on English roast beef." He objected to the lines upon which the Factory Act is conceived and said "while I would demand that all cruelty and injustice should be redressed, the rules of labour should be framed to agree with the habits of the workmen." There was hearty concurrence in this.

However from what I have said it is not very plain what all this had to do with the subject of the lecture; but these incidental matters are perhaps of more importance than the main topic which was chiefly in the nature of friendly counsel and advice to the young men who are about to begin their professional life in India. The criticism upon it generally was that the speaker had rather overvalued the benefit of some of our literature and the value of our practical arts. In general terms he had admitted that England had as much to learn from India as India from England. He had extolled the merits of Carlyle as a teacher, but Sir W. Hunter in a very interesting manner pointed out the great defect in Carlyle of that want of sympathy with the week and oppressed which it was of special importanee to the educated Indian to cultivate. Sir William also spoke in enthusiastic terms of Kristo Das Pal whose portrait he had lately seen in Calcutta and instanced him as a fine example of that "serenity combined with animation of mind" which he described as the most striking characteristic of Hindus; a combination in which the English mind is somewhat deficient; and spoke highly also of his powers and work as an editor.

The meeting was a pleasant and useful one in many ways but it must be confessed there was not such an effective contrast between English and Indian modes of thought and the practical bearing which their collision will have on the course of Indian affairs as might have been expected from the subject of the lecture.

INDIA AS A BARRIER TO THE UNION OF "GREATER BRITAIN."

A curious comment is furnished upon a sentence in the above lecture to the effect that "no Englishman has any right in India unless he has higher aims than those of making money" by a paragraph which I find in a paper in the Nineteenth Century" magazine on "Imperial Federation." The writer says: the acquisition of territory can only be permanent and substantial good in the case where the acquirer can inhabit the land. Gibbon quotes a very just observation of Seneca: 'Wherever the Roman acquires he inhabits'; and it is confirmed by history and experience. India has always been an effectual barrier to the true union of Greater Britain, and Equatorical Africa will prove a second bar because English children cannot be brought up in these countries. The only interest of the individual Englishman is to make as much money as he can out of them. He hates them and he quits them."

Here is much more matter for observation than I could venture to deal with. How far the remarks are just it is not for me to say; but I give them, as I conceive it is proper for me to do, as part of the many things which are said in relation to India and England.

RESETTLEMENTS IN THE CENTRAL PROVINCES.

Mr. Burt, the Labour Member for Morpeth, asked the Under-Secretary for India on Friday whether a resettlement of the Central Provinces had been proceeding during the past three years and whether, as regarded some viliages, the rent had been raised some 40, some 50, and some 100 per cent; and whether the Secretary of State would obtain and lay upon the table particulars showing district by district, in the Nagpore, Chattisgarh, Jubbulpore and Nerbudda divisions, the rent at which they were assessed under the old settlement and the rates which it was intended the tenants should pay under the new settlement. Sir John Gorst promised to obtain results of the resettlements so far as they have gone; but none he thought had been made in the Nagpore or Nerbudda division. He would consider he said whether the passes when received could be laid on the table.

THE FACTORY BILL.

I spoke last week of the remark of Sir George Campbell upon motives which prompted a good deal of the suspicious philanthropy shown by the ring of manufacturers in the House of Commons over the Factory Act. Sir George does not cease to be vigilant. On Monday he asked the Under Secretary about a certain statement that had appeared in the "Times" to the effect that the Secretary of State had intimated to the Indian Government that certain parts of the Factory Bill were contrary to pledges given in Parliament and could not be accepted. He wanted to know if this were true and all about the pledges themselves; he wished further to know if the Secretary would lay the communications that had passed on the table now that they had resulted in a Bill. In reply to this Sir John Gorst professed to believe that the statement referred to was that made in the House the other day by Mr. Smith which I have before spoken of as a good example of Mr. Smith's moralistic view. But Sir George Campbell pointed out that Sir John Gorst had answered a question that had not been asked, while he has not answered what had been put to him. Whereupon the further reply was made that nothing had passed between the Secretary of State and the Government of India referring to any pledges given in Parliament. The question however was again repeated Sir George not being satisfied with the ambiguous answer. Sir John Gorst remaining silent notice was at once given that the question would be repeated. At the time of writing this has not been done. As to the presentation of the correspondence the Under-Secretary replied that this would be considered as soon as the Act was received.

BENGAL PRISONS.

I have been favoured with a copy of a paper read by Dr. F. J. Mouat, formerly Inspector-General of Jails, Bengal, and Justice of the Peace for Calcutta, at a Meeting of the Royal Statistical Society on he 17th instant. The subject is "Prison Ethics and Prison Labour" and it contains, besides a scientific disquisition on punishment in general, a great deal of information, chiefly of a historical kind, upon the gaol system of India and of the experiments in Bengal prisons which led to the establishment of a regular jail discipline by the Act II. (B. C.) of 1864. I am not aware that you have at present any pressing problem of jail administration beyond what we have also here which is how to make punishment reformatory; and it appears you have advanced as far to its solution as we have; but that unfortunately is not saying much. Your system is substantially ours and you appear to have adopted it first. Whatever may be its defects it is certainly superior to what existed before it. The chief objection usually made to it here is that the labour carried on in prisons is prejudicial to free industry. This was also urged against the employment of convicts in the Alipore Jail in handicrafts and the use of machinery, but Dr. Mouat claims that upon an inquiry instituted by the Secretary of State for India he succeeded in satisfying the Chamber of Commerce in Calcutta of the groundlessness of the objection. He concludes that even supposing the objection to prison as opposed to free labour to be in any way sound, which he appears to deny, the influence it can exercise in the open market in any country is infinitesimal from the small numbers engaged, and the exceptional circumstances in which it is exercised. The advantages at any rate of a healthier prison life physically and intellectually outweigh any disadvantages on the other side.

He gives an interesting account of an exhibition of Jail manufactures held in Calcutta in 1856 to which 36 prisons in the lower provinces and 10 in the North-Western Provinces contributed. The greater number of the convicts were agriculturists who were caught entirely in jail. The Sonthals became skilled weavers: The Thugs attained celebrity as carpet weavers and dyers and tent makers in the industrial prison of Jubbulpore, and numerous other prisoners attained remarkable skill as printers, lithographers, paper makers, brick makers, potters, carpenters, blacksmiths and masons. The Chamber of Commerce visited the exhibition officially and made a report recommending the establishment of a Trade Museum in Calcutta, to assist in the development and extension of the industrial and commercial reasources of British India—a precursor of the Imperial Institute, says the essayist. The occurrence of the Sepoy Mutiny, a few months afterwards caused the nonfulfilment of those proposals, which have not since been revived so far as he knows. So far as he had the means of judging very few of the convicts who became skilled artizans or had served as prison subordinates ever returned to the jails in which they were trained or committed fresh crimes. He commends the employment of prisoners as subordinate officers, but as it happens in England when this has been raised. In Bengal the criminals guilty of affrays attended with homicide, murder from jealousy, and other uncontrolled passions formed a very small proportion of the inmates of the prisons. In five years there were only 138 men and women sentenced to execution: a very small number amongst a population of 60 millions, in some Sections of which he remarks human life is held in little regard, and where the temptations to acts of lawless violence are very great. In point of mere numbers this is very much below the English record. The observation that 90 per cent of the prisoners were men who would not work, who sought the means of gratifying their evil passions by theft and fraud, and to whom continuous labour in any form was utterly distasteful is as true for England as it no doubt is for India. Poor human nature is much the same all the world over; and prison records agree with other means of information in illustrating the truth of the saying.

MR. GLADSTONE ON THE PLATFORM.

Mr. Gladstone has been prodigiously active lately. On Saturday last he was discoursing to the youths at the great public school of Glow the chief nursery of the aristocracy and the "classes"—upon his favourite topic of Homer! and on Tuesday he was starting from London amidst the ovations of a large concourse of admirers of all ranks to visit the town of Hastings. some eighty miles from London, for the purpose of addressing a lare public meeting on political topics. The rushing and crowding at the Railway station were so great and the people so enthusiastic that only by what seemed a miracle were no lives lost. Whatever may be thought of the wisdom of those who thus lose their heads such demonstrations leave no doubt that Mr. Gladstone retains all his old power of attracting the masses of the people. However silly the display

no doubt be his opponents are vexed enough at it and they have reason to be for it is ominously significant of the triumph at the next general election what Mr Gladstone expresses his hopeful anticipation of more confidently than ever. At Hastings his speech was of enormous length and on the whole cannot be considered in any other respect very remarkable, except it be for the skill with which he presented very old topics in language more attractive than one would think possible seeing he has dealt with them so often. Perhaps two matters may be reserved from this general remark. Those were first as to a recent speech of Mr Parnell in which the latter had said that whilst he was acting with the liberal party he had opposed the claims of labour candidates for Parliament because as an ally of the liberal leaders, acting in negotiation with them he was bound in England to carry out their policy; and when they asked him to use his influence and direct his organization to defeat labour candidates he was under an obligation to do so. To this Mr. Gladstone replied "I suppose when he speaks of the liberal leaders I must be more or less included. On that supposition I wish with very great brevity to state to you that in this there is not one syllable of truth, so far as I am concerned, from beginning to end. If the liberal leaders have taken any part and they have taken a part, with regard to labour candidates, it has been the desire from the bottom of their hearts to promote by the use of every legitimate means at their command an increase, aye, an undeniable increase in the number of the representatives of labour who now sit in the House of Commons."

The next point I refer to is what Mr. Gladstone called the

REMARKABLE CAREER OF MR. PARNELL.

He prefaced his remarks *apropos* of this by saying "It has often been thought I owed some explanation to the public. It has been pointed out that in 1881 I myself in the City of London denounced Mr Parnell in terms of great severity whereas I have been for several years past in political co-operation with him in regard to the Irish question." There does not appear to be anything new in the explanation which is this: that then Mr Parnell had used language in America which was dangerous to the Empire as advocating total separation: and that he was determined apparently to wreck the Land Act which the Liberal Government looked to at that time as the main instrument for redreseing Irish grievances. But says Mr Gladstone after Mr Parnell came back from prison he never used such language again; and instead of trying to nullify the working of the Land Act he co-operated with us to make it successful. True he wrecked our Government in 1885. I don't complain of that; he accepted our Home rule policy in 1886 and this year 16 seats obtained at bye-elections make it a matter of certainty that If Parliament were dessolved to-morrow a large and commanding majority would be returned." This at any rate was certain until the painful time of the proceedings in the Divorce Court but then it became equally evident that the general conviction of the liberal party was against placing of Mr. Parnell in constitutional rulership of the Irish party. The responsibility of judging upon what principles and rules they should dispose of their votes was upon them alone. They decided they could not by means of their majority place Mr. Parnell in that position. This was not an ordinary case of interfering with the mere leadership of a party. That being so "I was merely the reporter of the general conviction of the Liberal party. I never doubted that was the conviction of the liberal party and of its soundest and best parts; moreover I believe that if that was their conviction in December last it is now their conviction." As I said there is perhaps nothing new in this but it may explain Mr Gladstone's position.

THE TORY CONSCIENCE AND NTELLECT REGARDING HOME RULE

Mr Parnell in a recent speech says it may be time for thinking of a Tory alliance: such as once existed before. The impediment in the way of this says Mr. Gladstone is neither the Tory conscience nor the Tory intellect; neither of which cares much about it. It lies in the existence of that unhappy unfortunate ill-starred abortion of a party which is called the liberal humours party; for the only reason and ground of their existence is opposition to Home Rule. If Home Rule were granted they would vanish into thin air," The Tories left to themselves might give Home Rule just as they gave Roman Catholic emancipation; which they had always opposed; and were not extinguished by giving it; for it is a party which lives on its defeats. If they would bring in a Bill corresponding to his own Mr. Gladstone promises to give a hearty support to it.

SOME PENDING ELECTION.

The claim of each of the Irish factions that it alone, Parnellite or anti-Parnellite, is truly representative of the feeling of the country is going to be put to a speedy test. Since Kilkenny there has been no election in Ireland and "brag" has therefore been as plentiful as might have been expected seeing the combatants are Irishmen whose exuberant fancy often leads them into other realms than those of fact. Now an Irish constituency that of North Sligo has become vacant by the death of its member who was an anti-Parnellite; and the Writ has been issued for the election of another member in his place, But further than this we are promised the resignation of Mr. Parnell himself and his colleague Mr. Maurice Healy (the brother of Mr. Tim Healy in the representation of the City of Cork for which they have sat since 1858. This step is in consequence of a remark in a speech of Mr. Parnell expressing his confidence in the result of an election which was to be held in Cork. Whereupon Mr. Healy taking this as a challenge wrote to Mr. Parnell in a rather braggadocis manner saying that he was prepared at once to arrange with Mr. Parnell for their simultaneous resignations; and he tauntingly remarked that he hoped Mr. Parnell would would not back out of his offer to resign as he had done out of his other promises; for he was quite certain that the result of the poll would be the triumph of the "patriot" party.

There is also a pending English election that of North Aston; a constituency which s really part of the city of Bermingham, where the Liberal Unionist influence of Mr. Chamberlain is so strong. At the election in 1886 it returned an opponent of Home Rules and it is through his death that the vacancy has occurred; a Home Ruler is now contesting the seat with a conservative. In 1886 the Home Rule party we are tremendously beaten; and if the verdict is reversed by the result of to-day's polling—which will be announced here too late for this mail. There will be great exultation at the Gladstonian Clubs over the new indication of the country's change of mind since 1886.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION ON ENGLISH MARRIAGE LAW.

For almost a fortnight every body has been talking about an extraordinary affair in which the parties were a husband and wife who were living apart from each other, both having their separate residences however in the same town the—town of Blacburn in Lancashire. In 1887 a Mr. Jackson, a gentleman by education and position, married a lady named Miss Hall who, though not young, had at least considerable pecuniary means. This marriage took place without the relatives of the parties being aware of the ceremony. Mr. Jackson however proceeded with his wife to her home at her relatives and then immediately left her and sailed for New Zealand the next day and of his intention to do so his wife had been aware before the marriage. Immediately on his arrival in New Zealand he began to receive letters from his wife beseeching him to return to England. This he did not; on his arrival he discovered that his wife, who still remained at her relatives, refused to leave them and take up her abode with him. After a considerable time had elapsed without his changing the lady's determination the husband began what is known as an action for the restitution of conjugal rights with the object of obtaining an order of the matrimonial Court that his wife should return to the duties proper to her as his wife. He obtained an order to that effect, here however a curious thing must be explained. The Court can make such an order, and once upon a time, before 1884, could imprison for contempt of Court the husband or wife who refused to return to live with the other who had obtained the decree for restitution; but it has had since that year no power to enforce the order by imprisonment. What had the husband to do? What he did was this. One Sunday morning as his wife and a sister were returning from Church he drove up in a carriage with some friends, seized his wife in presence of the crowd during broad day, put her in the carriage and drew rapidly away with her in spite of her cries and resistance. He took her to his residence and there kept her under such restraint as prevented her leaving the house but subjected her to no other force or ill-treatment. This he claimed to be doing under his strict legal rights as a husband. The relatives of the lady made various attempts to recover her, the husband's house was in a manner besieged, and a breach of the peace only prevented by the intervention of the police. Ultimately the relatives applied to a divisional Court consisting of two Judges, for a writ of Habeas Corpus commanding the husband to bring his wife before them to justify his detention of her against her will. This the Judges refused on the ground that it was clear he had legal right to exercise control over his wife with the object of preventing her withdrawing from his residence and society. But the relatives appealed to the Court of Appeal presided over by the Lord Chancellor and that Court has decided as promptly that there is no such law as that claimed on behalf of the husband. Whatever the old theories were of the husband's rights as to corporal correction and restraint of the wife they held that he has no more right to imprison her than any one subject of the Queen has to imprison any other and that the wife is perfectly free to come and go as she pleases; and they expressed themselves strongly as to the husband's conduct in carrying off his wife by force. So that the husband has a wife who refuses to live with him, who is still his wife however and will be till her death unless she gave him ground for going to the Divorce Court by reason of adultery; and all he can do now is to obtain such a separation from the Court as will release him from any responsibility for his wife's debts or conduct; but he cannot marry again. Considering all the anomalies of this position it is the opinion of some that the outcome of this decision is likely to be the allowance of divorce practically in the will of the parties as is the case in Scotland, and it certainly affirms the freedom of wives from their husbands' control in an unexpected manner.

DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER.—This famous and popular remedy has been found to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human fame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Mumps, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Topthache, Neuralgia, Colic, Rheumatism; Paralisis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, and Eruptions on the Skin. Highly recommended by the Medical faculty. Thousands of Testimonials of its marvellous cures. Call for Darlington's Pain Curer and see you get it. Per bottle, Re. 1; large size, Re. 2; packing and postage As. 8. May be had from Messrs. Darlington & Co., at their establishment 16, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS GREAT VALUE AS A NUTRIENT FOR WEAKLY CHILDREN.—In cases of languid and imperfect nutrition often observed in children, the surprising efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Oil is thus described by Dr. Edward Carey: "It is in the diseases incidental to childhood, that mainly depend on the mal-assimilation of the food in the pale cachectic child, when the anxious practitioner has exhausted the whole range of alteratives and tonics, that de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil will come in and satisfy his most sanguine expectations. Where the powers of life are low, it affords nourishment to the body when none other can be borne it furnishes the frame with fat in a truly wonderful manner, and administed as it is in Holland, the delicate and puny child, who though not considered ill, is in that state of impaired health which would favour the development of disease, its extraordinary effects will soon be visible, after having taken it for a short period, in a return to health and strength which were before unknown, and which will be accomplished by no other remedy with which we are acquainted Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold ouly in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Hardford and Co, 210 High Holborn, London.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Cambridge University Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle) was (Jan. 1890) "much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "I derived great bent from your lessons, though at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentations of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Physician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, etc., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal C. S. "Having seen the base attempt to rob you, I send, unsolicited, the statement that your system is of great advantage to strong memory incalculable aid to weak one."—Rev. Dr. J. M. Buckly. Excellent travelling companion."—Capt. J. B. Haye R. N. Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Saderud-din Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, Q. C. "Does not involve much labour,"—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct. 1887. "Tremendously popular in Oxford.—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th February. 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupil. Rs. 76; Ten pupils, Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Fisk-Williams, 71, Elliot Road Calcutta or to A. LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London, England.

In his Treatise on Pharmacy, Prof Soubeiran says: Guyot's Tar has been tried in seven Persian hospitals and in the principal hospitals of Belgium, Spain, Austria, etc. Guyot's Tar has given the best results against maladies of the chest, stomach and bladder. "In the interior, the tar acts, augmenting the dose of urine, exciting the appetite, and accelerating digestion. It is prescribed, above all, against chronic catarrhs of the lungs and bladder."

Extract.

THE HINDU MARRIAGE LAW.

(Manchester Guardian.)

It is surely a singular circumstance in the history of the world that we English people, a mere handful as compared with the vast population of Hindustan, and separated from them by many thousand miles of sea and land, should be required to form a judgment respecting two of the innermost institutions of their family life—child-marriage and enforced widowhood —and to do so not merely as a matter of antiquarian or philosophical interest, but as one of practical politics. Yet so it is, and the reason is plain. In the last resort we exercise supreme control over the few men who make laws for India. They do not consult us much, and we seldom interfere with them. We see at once that there are many things in connection with India on which they are better informed than we can hope to be. We are persuaded that their chief desire is to do what is best for India, and that they are ready to give effect to the most intelligent native opinion so far as is consistent with our obligations to Indian society as a whole. Nevertheless we watch them, as we are bound to do, since the ultimate responsibility rests with us, and there are occasions when we make our voices heard. The necessity for acquiring information and forming a sound judgment on Indian questions has a two-fold aspect. If it is important to know what the men who legislate for India ought to do, it is also important to know what they should refrain from doing, or should not do yet, or at any rate should do with extreme deliberation and care. It is under this second aspect of the case that inquiry may be most important as regards ourselves. We are enamoured of our civilisation. We think it infinitely superior to that of the East, which we will hardly admit to be civilisation at all. If our Hindu fellow-subjects do not regulate their lives after our fashion, we are apt to say at once—so much the worse of them. If their family life is not the same as ours, we pity the poor Hindu households, and fancy they must experience a sad deprivation. We do not sufficiently remember that though the civilisation of India may be, in many respects, and perhaps in some vital respects, inferior to ours, it may have some counterblancing qualities on the right side in which ours is deficient. It is at least one of the oldest in the world. It had its philosophers and its lawgivers at a time when our ancestors went in skins and war-paint, and perhaps indulged in a little quiet cannibalism. Its village communities, we are told by Sir Henry Maine, are a continuation of one of the oldest institutions of the Aryan race. The Indian intellect is as acute as ours. Sir James Mackintosh, putting himself through a course of study on his voyage to India when made Recorder of Bombay, found to his amazement that the metaphysical problems which had occupied the intellect of Europe for more than two thousand years had played just as important a part in Indian thought, and been discussed with a subtlety far exceeding ours. This great civilisation has given birth to customs and to a social organisation which could not have lasted through so many centuries if there had not been some moral fibre in them, if they had been wholly absurd, or unnatural, or did not contain a good many grains of preservative salt. These considerations should make us reflect when we are prompted no doubt by the most generous motives and from a keen sense of duty, urge the interference of the Indian Government in the promotion of social changes which seem to us desirable. It is not a question of persuasion, or of argument, or of the quiet effect of English thought, but of interference by the strong arm of the law, of using our political powers as an instrument on social change. It is only here that we may occasionally have to pause.

On these questions we are learners, and if we wish to acquire information of any practical value it is to the Hindus themselves that we must go, at any rate in the first instance. Let us listen, then, to what "A Brahmin Official" has to say in the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* for October on the two questions which have been mentioned. Various explanations have been given of the origin of child-marriage. Mr. Malabari, the zealous and eloquent advocate of change, ascribes it to the social necessities which sprung out of the Mahomedan invasions. When hordes of fierce barbarians poured down the valley of the Ganges carrying their depredations far and wide, and wrecking for a time the very foundations of Hindu society, fathers were anxious to secure protection for their daughters, and thought that this could be most effectually done by marrying them as soon as possible. Hence it is said the custom grew till it became universal. But, whatever its origin, all admit that it long has been and still is closely associated with the popular religion. "A Brahmin Official" repudiates this explanation altogether. He says the custom existed before the Mahomedan invasions set in, and before the far earlier days of Buddhist supremacy. He refers to an injunction in the laws of Manu which prescribe hat a girl shall be married before the very earliest period at which she would be considered marriageable in Europe, and declares that the father who keeps her unmarried commits a sin. The age at which marriage takes place varies much in different parts of India. It is deferred longest in Upper India, and occurs soonest in Bengal where the marriage is often clebrated when the bride, if she were in England, would be just leaving the Kindergarten. But the marriage, though legally binding, has some resemblance to what with us is called an engagement and in Germany a betrothal, and the betrothal often extends over several years. The poorer classes keep their girls at home as long as they can for the sake of their help in the family, and only send them to their matrimonial abodes when the other parties to the contract become clamorous. The second stage of matrimony is generally the occasion of some special festivity, more joyous perhaps and less purely sacred than that at which the nuptial knot was tied. Marriage and the actual beginning of married life are thus quite distinct, and in this distinction lies the best chance of beginning about a gradual change. The Indian Government do not propose to legislate about marriage at all What they propose to do is to raise the age at which the bride's consent is necessary to the commencement of married life, and since it is to the marriage that a religious character attaches, the change in the law will not touch religion. "A Brahmin Official" is much disturbed about the proposed extension of the age of consent. If, he says, it were raised to the age of sixteen or eighteen it would involve the overthrow of parental authority and revolutionise the Hindu household. It is a fixed tenet of Hindu society that girls must not choose their husbands. The anxious parents begin as soon as their girls are born to look out for suitable partners for them, and when the bridegroom is produced he must be accepted. The result is said to be in most cases very happy. The twig is bent while it is young. The girl when taken to her husband's family easily adapts herself to the situation and becomes attached to his relations. It is in connection with enforced widowhood that we can best appreciate the religious character of a Hindu marriage. Once a widow, even if they have never lived together, the wife never remarries. The sacramental tie between them can ever be broken. They are sealed to each other for ever. Her husband's welfare in the invisible world depends upon her conduct in this. For his sake she goes through a round of prescribed ritual observances every year, much as elsewhere a priest is engaged to say masses for the repose of the departed. On the other hand, if there are no children she succeeds to the whole of her husband's possessions, and in all cases can claim her share. She is his "legal representative" as long as she lives.

How far the Government of India may safely venture to meddle with the Hindu marriage customs is a principal question of the utmost importance. "A Brahmin Official" tells us that there are dangers in the way. "I warn Englishmen," he says "both in England and in India, not to think for a moment of such an unwise step as to meddle with the internal management of the social and religious affairs of different tribes, castes, and denominations of Hindus in all parts of India. This will simply produce incalculable injury to the Government, without doing any good to the people themselves. Englishmen in England have no idea of the harm they are doing." On this point it may be as well to call in another witness, whom we may accept as more impartial, and who at at least has no Brahminical prejudices. Sir George Birdwood was born in Bombay. After finishing his education in England he returned to India, and received an appointment to the Medical Staff in 1854. Twenty-five years of his life have been spent in India, and his duties have brought him into frequent contact with all classes of the people. Referring in a recent tetter to the *Times* to the practice of child-marrige, he expresses his entire sympathy with Mr. Malabari in his efforts to abolish it; "but," he adds, "above any other subject affecting the Hindus, this is the one they should be scrupulously left to deal with themselves." Parsis, Mahomedans, and even Englishmen may discuss the question in pamphlets and newspapers, but if they are wise they will not form committees to "concuss" the Government. This part of the work must be left to the Hindus. He assures us that the Act of the Indian Government in 1856 authorising the marriage of Hindu widows was one of the causes of the tacit acquiescence of the Hindus in many parts of India in the Mutiny, which broke out the following year. He says that everybody who was in India at the time is aware of the fact, though it may not be found in any official record. It is well known that the issue of greased cartridges to the troops was resented as an attempt to betray them into violating their religious obligations, and the more serious offence offered the year before may have predisposed them to be suspicious. Sir George Birdwood quotes from a native newspaper some remarks in reply to Mr. Ashburner's recent article on the Hindu marriage laws in the *National Review*. They are a terribly vigorous criticism of English society such as the writer takes it to be. As regards our domestic life and morals, and especially the character of English women, he turns the tables upon us with a vengeance, and no wonder when it is found that he derives his impressions from Mr. Reynolds, of departed fame, and Max O Rell. Far worse exaggerations and caricatures of English morals and of the general condition of things amongst us have issued from the press, and if they are read by the Hindus we cannot be surprised if they get the impression that we are a gang of hyprocrites and monsters of iniquity. It is just possible that we may be in danger of imbibing similarly false views as regards India. We have, however, in Sir George Birdwood an unimpeachable witness, and he corroborates all that "A Brahmin Official" says of the domestic morality of the Hindus. It is a picture which ought to be placed before our eyes. "The marriage laws of the Hindus," he says, "have served to create the highest type of family life known. For its simplicity, affection, reverence and purity, it is absolutely unapproachable by any other nation." Such testimony throws us back upon a criticism of ourselves. Are we, then, inferior to the Hindus in that particular institution of which we are most proud, and regards which we are apt to think ourselves incomparable? The truth probably is that every kind of civilisation has its weak points, and that we are least struck with the failings of our own because we are most familiar with them.

There are two other authorities who have right to be heard on this question, both of them men of large Indian experience—Sir Alfred C. Lyall and Sir W. W. Hunter. Sir A. Lyall, in an article in the *Indian Magazine and Review* for January, expresses his approval of the proposed law for raising the age of consent. Strictly speaking it is only an amendment of one of our own laws, and we are quite free and indeed bound to after it if we think it right to do so. But he tells us that whatever we do in this direction must be done with the greatest circumspection. We must not get out of touch with public opinion by running too rapidly ahead, and in removing disabilities we must be careful not to relax the bonds of Indian society. On another point Sir Alfred agrees with Sir George Birdood. If we wish to succeed in peacefully ameliorating the Hindu marriage laws, the less we have to do with the agitation the better. "From the first," he says, "there has been ground for the apprehension that anything like agitation on this subject in England would arouse opposition and set on foot a counter movement in India, thereby embarrassing progress and turning discussion into controversy, and there are signs that this prognostication is being fulfilled. The influential meeting of conservative Hindus at Madras and elsewhere, headed by men of weight, rank and experience, are indications that must be taken into account." They do not prove that the movement is in the wrong direction, but only that it is premature. Sir W. W. Hunter is, perhaps, the most open to impressions, as well as the most hopeful of all who write with authority on Indian affairs and his paper in the last number of the *Contemporary Review* presents us with a gratifying picture of the new India of to-day with its aspirations after political progress and social reform. The Government yields slowly, perhaps in some directions too slowly; but they are at any rate moving on. The political question stands on its own ground quite apart from the social question though it is probable that generally speaking, the same persons sympathise with both. There is, however, this different between them. In making political concessions we run no risk of arraying the feelings of the people against us, quite the contrary. But in meddling with Hindu customs we may wound religious sentiment of millions who care but little about politics. It is in this direction that we have to be on our guard, and the course we sought to pursue is tolerably plain. We must do all that we can subject to the one condition that we keep in touch with native opinion. We have no moral right to force our own ideas on the Hindus, and everything should be avoided which might give them the belief that we have any such intention. The custom of the Hindus and whatever touches their religion must in the main be left to the operation of the silent and powerful influences which throughout India are working on the side of change. This is really the quickest way of accomplishing any desired reform. It is a case of *festina lente*; slow and sure.

Government Notification.

Calcutta Gazette.—*April* 8, 1891

GENERAL.—Lieutenant-Colonel G F O Boughey, R E. Commandant of the Eastern Bengal State Railway Volunteer Rifle Corps, is allowed leave of absence for six months, with effect from the 11th March, 1891.

Captain W R Houghton is appointed to act as Commandant of the Eastern Bengal State Railway Volunteer Rifle Corps during the absence, on leave, of Lieutenant-Colonel, G F O Boughey, or until further orders.

Babu Mohini Mohun Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chitagong, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under Section 4 of the Public Demands Recovery Act VII (B C) of 1880 in that District.

Mr C Cuthbertson, C S, has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of leave for six months on medical certificate.

Major R Thoms, Officiating Commandant of the Cossipore Artillery Volunteers, is allowed leave of absence for six months, with effect from the 25th instant.

Major R F Byars is appointed to act as Commandant of the Cossipore Artillery Volunteers, during the absence, on leave, of Major R Thoms, or until, further orders.

Mr H R H Coxe, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted temporarily to the Sudder Station of the District of the 24-Pergunnahs.

Mr H G W Herron. C S, reported his departure from India on furlough, on medical certificate, on the 25th ultimo.

Mr C M W Brett. District and Sessions Judge, is appointed to act as a Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpore, during the absence, on special leave, of Mr F W R Cowley, or until further orders.

Police.—Mr W D Abercrombie, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Nuddea, is allowed leave for three months, under Articles 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 2nd instant, or such subsequent date as he may be relieved.

Mr H W Boileau, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Monghyr, is appointed to act as District Superintendent, of Police, Nuddea, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. W D Abercrombie, or until further orders.

Mr R H G Irvine, District Superintendent of Police has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extention of six months' extraordinary leave without pay.

Jails.—Mr M S Emerson Officiating Superintendent of the Alipore Jail, is allowed leave on Private affairs for six months, under Article 370 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st May, 1891.

Registration.—Moulvi Abdul Wahid, who was under order dated the 23rd April, 1890, appointed on probation for six months to be Rural Sub-Registrar of Raipura, in the District of Dacca, is confirmed in that appointment.

FAR BEYOND COMPETITION.

No known remedy approaches Warner's "SAFE" Cure in its ability to conquer and subdue Bright's disease and all other diseases of the Kidneys and of the Liver. Its reputation is unassailable, its records unapproachable. It has stood the test of time.

Henry Mouday, of the "Stag and Hounds," Bracknell, Binfield, Berks, England, suffered for nearly three years from Bright's Disease and Dropsy, had over 20 Doctors attending him, and was in several Hospitals. He says: "My condition was most deplorable. The Physicians said 'they could do no more. I might live a day or so.' I was advised to try Warner's 'SAFE' Cure, and quickly perceived that I was receiving benefit. I have taken 43 bottles of the 'SAFE' Cure, and would not be without it for anything. I would advise all who are suffering to take Warner's 'SAFE' Cure. I am sure it will do them good, as it has wonderfully restored—me to my usual good health."

"Richmond Villas, Chichester, Nov. 27, 1890.

"It is with grateful thanks to Almighty God and to you that I write to inform you of my safe recovery. Life was indeed beginning to get wearisome. With your sound advice I am happy to say I feel to-day hearty and well. I should advise all sufferers to use your very valuable medicine, Warner's 'SAFE' Cure. You are at liberty to make what use you like of this. I am only too glad to send it, and pray accept my grateful thanks.

(Signed) "HENRY HOLDER."

Warner's "Safe" Cure can be obtained at the Bazaars and of all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the world, or of H. Ballantine and Sons, Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras.

Babu Abhilash Chunder Mukerji, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, is appointed to be Sudder Sub-Registrar of that District, with effect from the 7th March, 1891, *viec* Babu Chundi Churn Chatterji, who has left the District.

Education.—Dr Prosunno Kumar Roy, Professor, Presidency College, reported his departure from India on leave, on medical certificate, on the 10th ultimo.

Moulvi Mahomed Ibrahim, Assistant Inspector of Mahomedan Education, Patna and Bhaugulpore Divisions, is allowed leave for one month, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 13th instant.

Revenue Department.—(Forests) Mr M S Fowler, Deputy Conservator of Forests, who reported his return from the leave granted him in the notification dated the 16th December, 1890, on the forenoon of the 21st March, 1891, is appointed to be Personal Assistant to the Conservator of Forests, Bengal, until further orders.

Revenue Department.—(Opium) Mr A M Alone, Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent Benares Agency, is allowed privilege leave for the months, with effect from the first April 1891.

Charles Addison Levett-Yeats is appointed to act as Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent in the Benares Agency, during the absence, on leave, of Mr G W Dich Lauder, or until further orders.

The Lieutenant-Governor is hereby pleased to direct that the Principal Assistants to Opium Agents will henceforth be designated as "Factory Superintendents."

Mr W H T Howey, Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent. Ghazipore, is appointed to be Head Assistant to the Factory Superintendent, Ghazipore, *vice* Mr A W Ross, who has reverted to the regular line of the department.

In continuation of the notification of 2nd March, 1891, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 4th idem, the following further promotions are made in the Opium Department, *vice* Mr A F Mackenzie, deceased :—

Mr J P Augier, Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, second grade, *sub. protempore*, is confirmed in that grade.

Mr C A Levett-Yeats, Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, third grade, to be Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, second grade, sub. protempore.

Mr E H Allum, Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, third grade, sub. protempore, is confirmed in that grade.

Mr F W Harris, Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, probationary grade, to be Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, third grade, sub. protempore.

Mr A Burt, Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, probationary grade, sub. protempore, is confirmed in that grade.

Mr Nirmal Chunder Sen, Officiating Assistant Sub-Deputy Ooium Agent, to be Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, probationary grade. sub. protempore.

Mr A Cr Bryson, Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, Benares Agency, is allowed leave for one year under Article 359 of the Civil Service Regulations with effect from the 1st April 1891, or any subsequent date from which he may avail himself of the leave.

Mr A W Osborne, Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, Shajehanpore, is appointed to act as Sub-Deputy Opium Agent of Rai Bareilly, during the absence, on leave, of Mr A C Bryson, or until futher orders.

Babu Roma Prasunna Roy, Khas Tehsildar of Government estates in the District of Backergunge, is hereby vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector under Regulation IX of 1833.

Babu Mohendra Nath Banerji, B A., B L, Government Pleader, Darjiling, is appointed to act as Secretary to the District Committee of Public Instruction in that District, with effect from the 6th March, 1891, during the absence of the permanent Secretary Babu Chunder Kanta Pain.

JUDICIAL.—Babu Kheter Mohun Bose is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Puri Beneh, in the Distric of Puri, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Mr H R H Coxe, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

Mr E G Drake-Brockman, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jhenidah. Jessore, is vested with the power to try summarily the offences mentioned in Section 260 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Babu Karuna Moy Bannerji, Munsiff of Jessore, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Judge of the Court of Small Causes at Krishnaghur, Ranaghat and Bongong.

Babu Biroja Churn Mitter, B L, is appointed to act as a Munsiff in the District of Jessore, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sudder Station of that District, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Karuna Moy Bannerji, or until further orders.

Babu Ananta Ram Ghose, Additional Munsiff of Munshigunge, in the District of Dacca, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of Dacca during the absence, on leave of Babu Krishna Chunder Chatterji, or until further orders.

Babu Rakhal Chunder Bose, B. L., is appointed to act as an Additional Munsiff in the District of Dacca, to be ordinarily stationed at Munshigunge, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Ananta Ram Ghose, or until further orders.

Babu Krishna Chunder Chatterji, Subordinate Judge of Dacca, is allowed leave for one month, viz., seven days under article 309, and the remaining period under Article 306(b) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 18th instant, or from such date as he may be relieved.

Grant of leave to Munsiffs—Babu Chunder Mohun Mukerji, Munsiff of Bhola, in the District of Backergunge, is allowed leave for three months, under Article 366(b) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st April 1891, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Tara Churan Sen, Munsiff of Patuakhally in the District of Backergunge, is allowed leave for one month and twenty-nine days, under Article 306 (b) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 3rd April 1891, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Nritya Gopal Sircar, Munsiff of Lalbag, in the District of Murshidabad, is allowed leave for fifty days, under Article 306 (b) of the Civil Service Begulations, with effect from the 4th April, 1891, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Akhoy Kumar Chatterji, Munsiff of Dinagepore, is allowed leave for one month under Article 306 (b) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 2nd April, 1891, or from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Mohendro Lall Goswami, Munsiff of Bhanga, in the District of Faridpore, is allowed leave for one month and a half under Article 305 (b) of the Civil Service Regulations in extension of the leave granted to him on the 12th February, 1891.

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NOTICE.

THE Fourteenth General Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, No. 38, Strand, Calcutra, on Saturday the 18th April 1891, at 12 o'clock for the purpose of receiving and passing the Audited Accounts and Balance Sheet for the Half-year ending 31st December 1890, declaring a dividend and transacting any other business that may be brought forward.

The Transfer Register will be closed from the 10th April to the 22nd April, both days inclusive.

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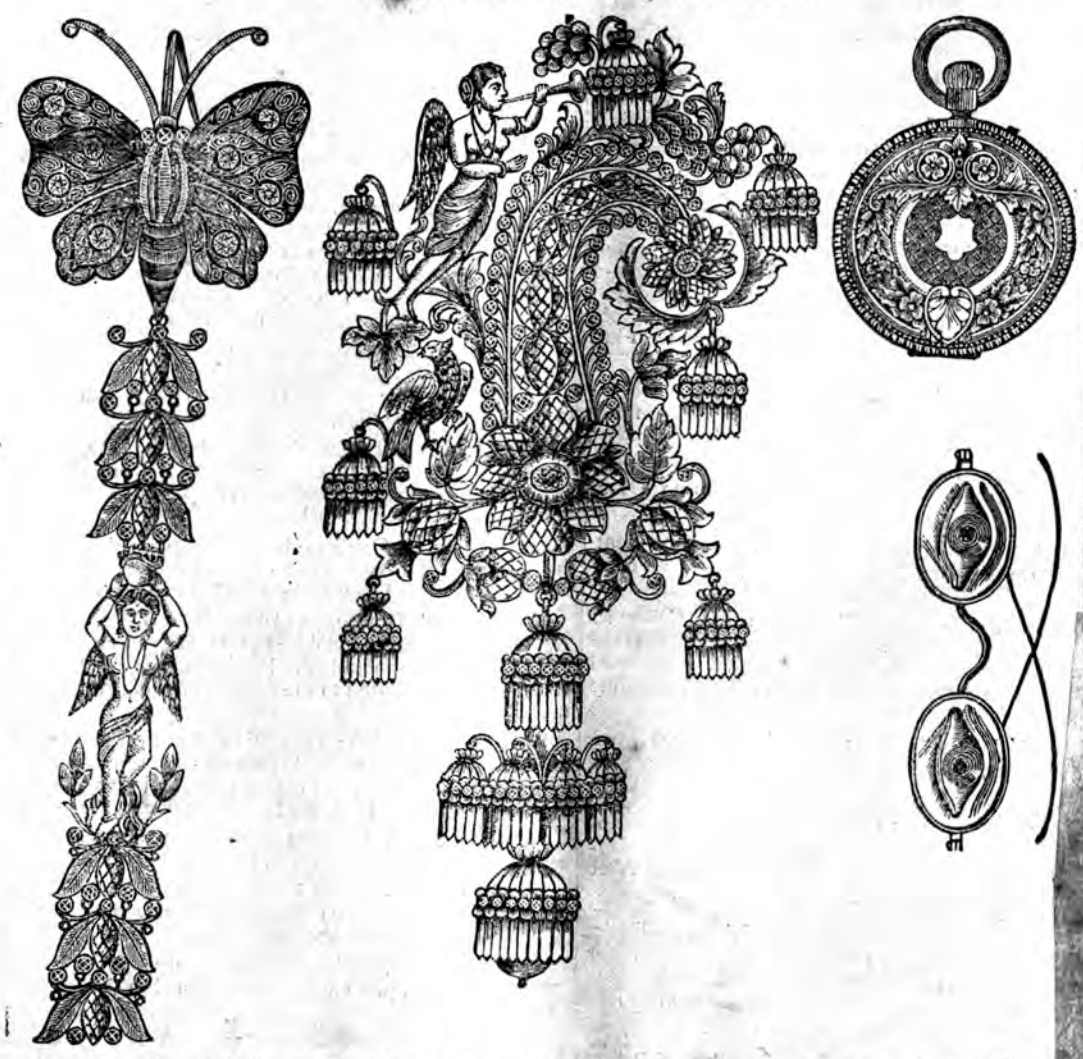

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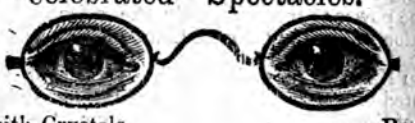

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Printed and Published by PRIYA NATH DAS *at the* HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS No. 188/2 BOWBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA